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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 65 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

MP20-23
(23)

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Strike Delays 20 Millions in Construction

Coast Contractors Sue Carpenters to Work

Hollywood, Sept. 30.—The studio jurisdictional strike of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters has to date delayed $20,000,000 worth of studio construction.

This huge blueprint backlog came to light with the filing in Superior Court of an injunctive action by six general construction firms to compel the carpenters' union to supply workmen to execute building delayed since the studio union struck more than a year ago.

The contractors' complaint outlines the history of legal moves which resulted in an arbitration directive requiring that work be done, and asks the court to confirm this action. The court has ordered the union, to show cause on Oct. 15 why the arbitration order should not be confirmed. The studios are not indicated as parties to the suit.

Nelson Silent on SIMPP-Majors Rift

Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, yesterday would neither confirm nor deny reports that the independents have reached a parting of the ways with major companies regarding preferred terms of settlement of the British tax.

Prior to the imposition of the *ad valorem* duty, MPA president Eric A. Johnston, in behalf of the major companies, offered a compromise ar-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Sugarman Heads UW 16mm. Exports

Harold Sugarman has been appointed vice-president in charge of export for United World Films, by James M. Franey, president of the 16mm. subsidiary of Universal.

Sugarman joined Universal in 1940, as head of the studio foreign department at Universal City. Transferred to New York last year to organize

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPEA Rejects Danish Curbs

Directors of the Motion Picture Export Association yesterday voted unanimously to reject proposals submitted by the Danish government under which drastic financial limits would be placed on the volume of American film business in that country. Directors of the member companies present at the meeting here characterized the Danish proposals as "in effect confiscatory and totally unacceptable."

They said that the Danish proposals seek not only to impose limits on the withdrawal of profits from that country, but also seek to dictate the prices at which film distribution rights may be sold, and to establish maximum limits on the earning power of each film.

The directors passed a two-point resolution, under which members of the MPEA will instruct their subsidiaries in Denmark not to accept the conditions set forth in the proposals,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Australian Decision Now Weighed Here

A decision on acceptance of the Australian government's proposal to reduce American film remittances by 40 per cent as compared to 1946, is now being pondered by principals of the American film companies in this country.

Australian sources revealed that negotiations between the Australian government and U. S. film industry

(*Continued on page 8*)

Carriers' Physical Releasing System Now Set Nationally

Kansas City, Sept. 30.—National Film Service today completed the formal setting up of nationwide service, for the physical handling of product of independent producers, at the annual stockholders' convention, with the approval of by-laws, and an agreement on contracts for all of the individual film delivery operators who are members of the National Film Carriers.

Service is now established at all 32 exchange centers. There were 21 films operating prior to organization of the distribution service on a national scale, and now the 11 additional also have facilities.

New film storage-film handling buildings are being erected at San

(*Continued on page 7*)

Allied Board Meeting To Spotlight ASCAP

Washington, Sept. 30.—The proposed ASCAP license rate increase will be No. 1 on the agenda of the board of the Allied States exhibitors when the board meets in Detroit Oct. 14-16, Abram F. Myers, board chairman, said in a statement today.

Other highlights of the agenda will include: the increased admission price (road show) pictures; the status of the Government's suit against the majors and the chance of it coming to hearing during the October term of the Supreme Court; methods for curbing "exorbitant" film rentals, includ-

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPA Starts Releasing Surveys of the Field

Washington, Sept. 30.—The Motion Picture Association has virtually completed a directory of film theatres in the United States, set up according to the usual 31 film distribution territories.

The first directory, which was released today, deals with the Buffalo area. There, currently, 303 theatres, with a total seating capacity of 262,758, are in operation. Slightly more than one-third of these, with 124,858 seats, are located in this area's three largest cities: Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse.

The format of the Buffalo directory

(*Continued on page 7*)

Bill for Printing of N.Y. Record Unpaid

Washington, Sept. 30.—Company defendants in the New York industry anti-trust suit have been billed by the Government for their share of cost of printing the record of the case on appeal to the Supreme Court but as yet have not paid up, it was learned at the high court here today.

Printing of the record is proceeding, regardless, and it is not anticipated that its completion will be delayed by the late arrival of the defendants' payment. It was also stated

(*Continued on page 7*)

Majors Made No Theatre Transactions

RKO, Para. So Report to Court; Others Today

Theatre-owning defendants in the Government's New York anti-trust case have made no changes in theatre holdings since their last quarterly report to Federal court here last July 1.

Both RKO and Paramount filed reports yesterday, again expressing attitudes against increasing or decreasing theatre interests pending the outcome of appeals now before the U. S. Supreme Court. RKO added it is continuing negotiations with respect to terminating a few joint theatre interests.

Loew's, Warners and 20th Century-Fox will submit their reports to the court today.

In their July 1 statements, the companies informed the court of dis-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rhoden Warns On Two Music Taxes

Kansas City, Sept. 30.—Exhibitors at the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners Association convention here were warned today by Elmer Rhoden, Fox Midwest head, of the possibility that they may be required to pay a music tax to Broadcast Music, Inc., in addition to the one now paid to American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Rhoden said that hotel interests

(*Continued on page 7*)

Says ASCAP Delay Means Big Saving

Kansas City, Sept. 30.—The four months' postponement to Feb. 1 of the effective date of the increased theatre music license fees of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will save exhibitors "almost a million dollars," Herman

(*Continued on page 7*)

2 Reviews Today

"The Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap" and "The Gangster" are reviewed on page 8. Key city grosses are reported on page 6.

Consider Films for Anti-Labor Retort

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—The American Federation of Labor convention, opening in San Francisco on Monday, to run for two weeks, will be urged to use 16mm. films in its $2,000,000 campaign to combat anti-labor sentiment arising throughout the country, IATSE International Representative Roy M. Brewer stated, following his appointment as chairman of the Hollywood AFL Film Committee, organized to present views to the convention in pamphlet form.

Brewer said the project contemplates having AFL studio unions make their cooperation available to any and all AFL unions which seek a communication medium for reaching schools, study clubs and other areas, but it does not include theatrical exhibition.

SOPEG Calls Parley On Negotiations

Company representatives yesterday told officials of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild that they are willing to extend the present wage clause of their contract for 2,500 home office employes for one year. A union spokesman characterized the offer as "offering us nothing," and said that the companies' position would be discussed tomorrow evening at a meeting of SOPEG's executive board.

The union has requested a wage increase of 30 per cent, or $10 weekly, whichever is higher. Yesterday's negotiations, at the Hotel Astor, lasted only 15 minutes. In the event of a dispute, the contract provides that the matter be submitted to arbitration. Prior to the negotiations, several hundred SOPEG members held a "30 or 10" demonstration in the Times Square area, expressing their determination to win wage increases.

'306' Gives Walsh Consent to Negotiate

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, has been authorized by the negotiating committee of projectionists' Local No. 306 to make a personal effort to settle the dispute between the local and representatives of RKO, Loew, Warner and Paramount theatres.

Walsh was given authorization after a lengthy meeting here with '306' officials which concluded late Monday night, and is believed to have held a conference with the theatre representatives yesterday afternoon.

Any agreement reached by Walsh with the circuits would have to be presented to the local's membership for approval. Walsh is scheduled to leave for San Francisco tomorrow to attend the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Joins Hacker & Jarvis

Oscar Hanigsberg, former U. S. Treasury Department official, has joined Hacker and Jarvis, film industry certified public accountants, here, as head of the tax department.

Personal Mention

PAT SCOLLARD, Paramount home office executive, has returned to New York from a New Hampshire vacation.

●

BERNARD ROBINSON, formerly on the staff of Olympia Theatre, New Bedford, Mass., has been appointed assistant manager at the Park, Taunton, Mass., replacing AL BROWN who has been promoted to manager of the State at Taunton.

●

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle Lion general sales manager, and MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity director, will leave here on a U. S. tour of E-L's 31 branches following conferences with ARTHUR B. KRIM, E-L president.

●

ARTHUR B. KRIM, Eagle Lion president, and ROBERT BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, having delayed their departure from the Coast, are due here today.

●

BERNARD G. KRANZE, assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal-International, will leave New York today for Philadelphia and Washington.

●

JOE SMITH of RKO Radio's Portland office has been transferred to the San Francisco exchange as manager, succeeding J. NEWTON (RED) JACOBS, resigned.

●

CAESAR GRANELLI, formerly associated with Golden State Theatres, San Francisco, has purchased the Portola Theatre, formerly a Blumenfeld house.

●

R. X. WILLIAMS, president of the Tri-States MPTO, is in Memphis from Oxford, Miss., to make arrangements for the organization's convention on Oct. 14-15.

●

DAVE CARSON of the Warner advertising department here, and MRS. CARSON are parents of a daughter, GAIL ANN.

●

NATHAN LEVINSON, head of the Warner studio sound and engineering research department, will leave here today for the Coast.

●

ED HINCHY, Warner playdate department head, will leave New York tonight for Pittsburgh and is expected back here Friday.

●

JIM PARTLOW, Universal-International branch manager in Atlanta, has returned to that city after a visit to New York.

●

HAL WALLIS is in town from the Coast for conferences with Paramount officials.

●

CHARLES J. SCHACK has been appointed manager of Shea's Kenmore Theatre, at Buffalo.

●

M. C. PASCHOAL, owner of the Maui Amusement Co., Honolulu, is visiting in San Francisco.

BERT SANFORD, Altec executive, has returned to New York from Washington.

●

ERIC M. HAMMEL, city manager of the Chakeres Theatres in Winchester, Ky., has resigned to enter another business in New York, while WAYNE FRAZEE named manager of the Leeds and DALLAS HALL manager of the Town Hall Theatre.

●

FRANK RIFFLE, Altec field manager in Louisville, and W. E. CARROLL of the Falls City Theatre Equipment Co. have returned to Louisville from Washington.

●

MARY K. DALVIN has sold her Pine Theatre, Pineview, Ga., to JULIUS MARSHBURN and will take over the Talbotton Theatre, Talbotton, Ga., formerly owned by T. F. ALLEN.

●

SAM GARDNER, M-G-M assistant Western district sales manager, was a recent visitor in Salt Lake City where he was formerly branch manager.

●

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR., has been awarded a citation for his film contributions and war record by the Central Lions Club of Chicago.

●

OREN H. GREGG, having sold his Gregg Theatre in Sedan, Kas., has retired after 27 years as a Kansas exhibitor.

●

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram's Latin America supervisor, has returned to the home office from Havana.

●

WALLACE SMITH, manager of the Brookhaven Theatre, Brookhaven, Ga., has returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

●

JACK ELWELL, general manager of Dixie Drive-In Theatres, has returned to Atlanta after a tour of the circuit's theatres in Florida.

●

IKE KATZ of Kay Film Exchanges, Atlanta, is in Florida from that city, while HARRY KATZ is visiting the Charlotte and Washington branches.

●

DAVID SANDLER, president of Drive-In Theatre Equipment Co., Cleveland, and MRS. SANDLER are parents of their third son.

●

TOMMY READ of Georgia Theatres and MRS. READ are back in Atlanta from a New York visit.

●

WALTER HICKEY, film sales representative, and MRS. HICKEY are vacationing here from Atlanta.

●

VIC ORSATTI, Coast agent, is in town from Hollywood.

●

NAT LIEBESKIND has returned to New York from Argentina.

●

HARRY SHERMAN is in town from the Coast.

●

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer, is back on the Coast from New York.

Newsreel Parade

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THE World Series takes the spotlight in all current newsreels, with the opening of the football season following close behind. Also covered are such subjects as Britain on the Palestine question, the pilotless plane which crossed the Atlantic, and the huge pier fire. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 10—$5,[illegible]0 damage in pier fire. Mayor O'Dwyer proclaims Fire Prevention Week. Airborne maneuvers held in England. Pilotless plane spans Atlantic. Football. 1947 World Series.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 208—Football season opens. World Series special. "We will quit in Palestine," British tell United Nations. President Truman asks help in Community Chest Drive. British test paratroopers. New York Fire Prevention Week.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 11—Football. Britain tells United Nations they are ready to end rule in Palestine. World Series.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 78—1947 World Series. President Truman urges aid for Community Chest Drive. Legionnaires pay tribute to deceased Americans in France. New six-engine jet-bomber prepared for test. General Montgomery reviews troop train in England. Football news.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 13—World Series. Football: Army vs. Villanova. Navy vs. University of California. Georgia vs. North Carolina.

E-L Will Disclose Wanger Pact Today

Signing of a deal between Eagle-Lion and producer Walter Wanger will be announced here today with the arrival of E-L pesident Arthur B. Krim from the Coast, a company spokesman said last night.

The deal, it is understood, will involve the making of two to four pictures a year by Wanger for E-L release. There has been some speculation that Wanger will receive E-L stock under the arrangement.

Raftery to Memphis On Censorship Suit

Complaint against Memphis censor Lloyd Binford will be filed by Hal Roach and United Artists about the middle of next week on charges based on alleged violation of the Constitution by Binford in rejecting Roach's picture, "Curley," Edward C. Raftery, attorney for the plaintiffs, said here yesterday. Raftery will leave here for Memphis today to prepare papers for Supreme Court filing in that city.

Paramount Agrees To Nomikos Delay

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—By agreement with Paramount Pictures, Van A. Nomikos Theatres has been granted another postponement in answering percentage charges of Paramount, by Federal District Court Judge Walter J. La Buy. The hearing is now scheduled for Oct. 20.

Mexican Union Data

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 30.—Unionized workers in the Mexican film industry number 32,756 who belong to six unions, announces the Labor Ministry.

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THIS MAN CARRIES ONE OF THE INDUSTRY'S BIG RESPONSIBILITIES!

Gus Eyssell, Managing Director of the world-famed Radio City Music Hall, has maintained an enviable standard of entertainment for the hundreds of thousands of people who patronize his celebrated show shop.

Mr. Eyssell must make the choice of the industry's greatest attractions. In looking ahead to coming months he has had to decide what are the best entertainments he could present to his vast audience.

He has made the decision. He has selected two motion pictures to play in succession: "SONG OF LOVE" and "CASS TIMBERLANE." They are both Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Next attraction at
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

M-G-M
PRESENTS

A Love story so beautiful it was set to music

KATHARINE · PAUL
HEPBURN · HENREID
ROBERT
WALKER

in a new masterpiece by the director of "The Yearling"

"SONG of LOVE"

A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION

with
LEO G. CARROLL · HENRY DANIELL · HENRY STEPHENSON

Screen Play by Ivan Tors, Irmgard Von Cube and Allen Vincent, and Robert Ardrey • Produced and Directed by CLARENCE BROWN

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Following attraction at
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

M-G-M
PRESENTS

The great novel of a girl who wanted life—and got it!

SPENCER TRACY
LANA TURNER
ZACHARY SCOTT

"CASS TIMBERLANE"

TOM DRAKE · MARY ASTOR · ALBERT DEKKER

Screen Play by Donald Ogden Stewart • Adaptation by Donald Ogden Stewart and Sonya Levien • Based on the Novel by Sinclair Lewis

Directed by GEORGE SIDNEY • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

And watch for more "Good News" from M-G-M!

20th's Smith Urges Better Showmanship

Speaking yesterday at Century Theatres first annual showmanship convention at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox's general sales manager, called upon exhibitors to exert all the ingenuity at their command for greater and better showmanship at the box-office and urged continuous exhibitor encouragement for production to offset current overseas revenue problems.

Fred J. Schwartz, Century's vice-president, presided at the one-day convention, at which Max Youngstein, Eagle Lion advertising-publicity director, and Peter Levathes, 20th-Fox short subject sales chief, also were guest speakers. Some 100 of the circuit's managerial personnel attended.

The sales plan recently established in Cleveland by 20th-Fox to improve runs and clearance may be extended wherever conditions show that it is needed, Smith said. He urged that exhibitors refrain from "knocking" roadshows.

Roadshows Are 'Prestige Builders'

"Roadshows," he declared, "are the prestige builders of our business, in addition to being big money-makers."

Smith proposed that theatres play an active part in community activities, congratulated Century on its program for increasing children patronage, termed Schwartz and the circuit as "merchants of showmanship," and said the circuit is nationally recognized because of its "good theatre operation" and "acceptance of community responsibilities."

Not only has Eagle Lion not cut down in its cooperative theatre advertising, but rather has increased it to the extent where the company's cooperative ad budget is 50 per cent over last year, Youngstein disclosed. He, too, complimented Century on its "showmanship."

Stresses Role of Short Subjects

Levathes said 20th-Fox plans to produce more short subjects with "exploitable possibilities." Shorts, he said, "can sell tickets." He cited March of Time in this respect, and pointed to cartoons as having "real importance beyond dollars and cents because of their appeal to children—the patrons of tomorrow." Shorts, said Levathes, "make a weak program strong and a strong program stronger."

Schwartz, in his opening address, also stressed the need for a return to showmanship. Showmanship, he said, must be exerted in every direction "if we are to avoid getting hurt by a falling box-office."

Other speakers at the convention were: J. R. Springer, Century's general manager; Leslie Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., Century's "extra profits" division; comptroller Martin H. Newman; Sam Goodman, chief film buyer; Leonard Satz, director of purchasing and maintenance; Edward Schreiber, advertising-publicity director, and others from the company.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
MOTION PICTURE STUDIO
Complete studio facilities for 35mm. and 16mm. motion pictures. Cameras, lights, carpentry shop, dolly, etc. Generous lease.
BOX 393, MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 6th Avenue, New York 20, N. Y.

Better Product Is The Answer: Siegel

Business bad? Not at all, reports David W. Siegel, independent producer and president of Triumph Pictures, Inc., who has arrived here from Hollywood. "Give the people their money's worth," he asserted, "and you will find that business is good."

Superior product is the one sure answer to all of the present wails, he added. During the war everything made money, with the result that producers got careless, he pointed out. But now the public is more discriminating, he continued. Producers therefore cannot afford to make bad pictures.

Turning to personnel layoffs in Hollywood as a so-called economy measure, he declared that "firing people does not cause a cure."

Production-wise, Siegel has just completed, with Ken Murray, a picture entitled "Bill and Coo," a feature-length film in color with a cast of birds only. It will be released through Republic. At present, Siegel is working on "Mickey," which will be released through Eagle Lion. At the completion of this, Siegel contemplates making a film based on Vera Caspary's novel, "Stranger Than Truth," for Triumph Pictures.

Siegel will return to Hollywood early next week.

Opposition to UA, RKO Deal Mounting

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—Amid signs that the strain between United Artists management and certain producers in the UA fold are increasing over Gradwell L. Sears' negotiations with RKO Radio for several RKO finished pictures, Sears and Arthur W. Kelly, vice-president, continued their individual meetings with producers today, but declined to set a date for a general meeting. The meeting was originally scheduled for today.

3% Columbus Tax In Effect Today

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 30.—A three per cent gross receipts admission tax, passed as an emergency measure in the City Council, goes into effect tomorrow and is expected to raise $153,000 per year. The ordinance exempts events from which full receipts go to charity or for religious purposes, plus city-operated events, police and fire benefits and the Columbus Philharmonic.

MGM Meet in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 30.—Attending an M-G-M sales meeting here, called by George Hickey, West Coast sales manager, were: J. J. Gardner, assistant Coast sales manager; Thomas J. Aspell, Jr., Los Angeles branch manager; Sam Davis, Seattle; Henry Friedel, Denver and Carl Nedley, Salt Lake City.

E-L Transfers Edinson

Julius Edinson, Eagle-Lion promotional field representative for Minneapolis, has been transferred to St. Louis by Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity director. Edinson will also cover Des Moines and Omaha.

MPA to Reveal Plan For 'Family' Parley

Washington, Sept. 30.—Plans for a National Conference on Family Life, to be held next spring at the White House, will be announced tomorrow at the headquarters of the Motion Picture Association. Eric Johnston is chairman of the conference.

Para. Junket Off To DeMille Opening

Paramount home office executives and representatives of the press, headed by Cecil B. DeMille, will leave here for Pittsburgh tonight to attend the world premiere of DeMille's "Unconquered," at Loew's Penn Theatre on Friday night, and take part in festivities that will precede the opening.

Paramount executives making the trip will include Charles Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution; Leonard Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations; Edward L. Hyman, Leon Netter and Robert Weitman, vice-presidents of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., and Curtis Mitchell, publicity-advertising director.

A Hollywood group, including Lizabeth Scott, Olga San Juan, Billy De Wolfe, Howard Da Silva and Virginia Welles will also attend.

Paramount Is Host At DeMille Party

Paramount was host to several hundred newspaper, trade press, magazine and radio representatives yesterday at a "Superlative Party" at the Rainbow Room for Cecil B. DeMille. Guests participated in a contest to coin a new superlative with which to describe, in advertising and publicity, DeMille's new production, "Unconquered."

Paramount Club Meet

Paramount executives and employes will turn out tonight to honor Cecil B. DeMille, producer-director of "Unconquered," at the Paramount Club's first meeting of the season, in the home office recreation room. Heading the officials will be president Barney Balaban, board chairman Adolph Zukor and Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution. Russell Holman, Eastern production head, will be master-of-ceremonies.

G. Mayer Gets Medal From the War Dept.

The Medal of Freedom has been awarded to Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, by the War Department.

The citation cites him for having "performed exceptionally meritorious service as special assistant to the American Minister in Bern, Switzerland, and as an associate in the Office of Strategic Services in Bern." It also states he obtained "military, political and economic intelligence" of the "highest importance" and "rendered essential services to the French underground."

$265,000 Alliance Deal

CHICAGO, Sept. 30. — The Tivoli Theatre building, at Downers Grove, Ill., has been sold by Alliance Theatre Corp. for $265,000.

'Road Is Open' For Para.-Liberty Deal

With the U. S. Treasury Department's having recognized the proposed sale of Liberty Films to Paramount as a tax-free reorganization of Liberty's affairs, the "road is now open" for consummation of the transaction, a Paramount spokesman indicated here yesterday.

Under the deal, it is unde[illegible]d, Liberty executives Frank Capra, George Stevens, Sam Briskin and William Wyler will split some 135,000 shares of Paramount stock, for which Liberty stock will be exchanged, and Paramount will acquire the rights to all Liberty product, including the forthcoming "State of the Union." It is not known whether the Liberty executives will receive equal amounts of the 135,000 Paramount shares.

Early this month, Capra reportedly said that if the Treasury Department did not act as it has acted the deal would be called off.

2nd-Run Deal from Berger-MACO Suit

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 30. — Second-run in Duluth has been made available to the Lyceum, it is understood, in the settlement of the Berger anti-trust suit against Minnesota Amusement and a number of distributors. Any cash involved in the out-of-court settlement is said to have been in the nature of a loan to make improvements in the Lyceum.

Berger charged in his suit that a number of majors conspired with Maco in "freezing out" the Lyceum. Since Maco dropped the Lyceum, the Strand has been operated as a split first and second-term house. The improved position of distributors and Maco alike was said by a distributor spokesman as making the second run for the Lyceum "desirable all around."

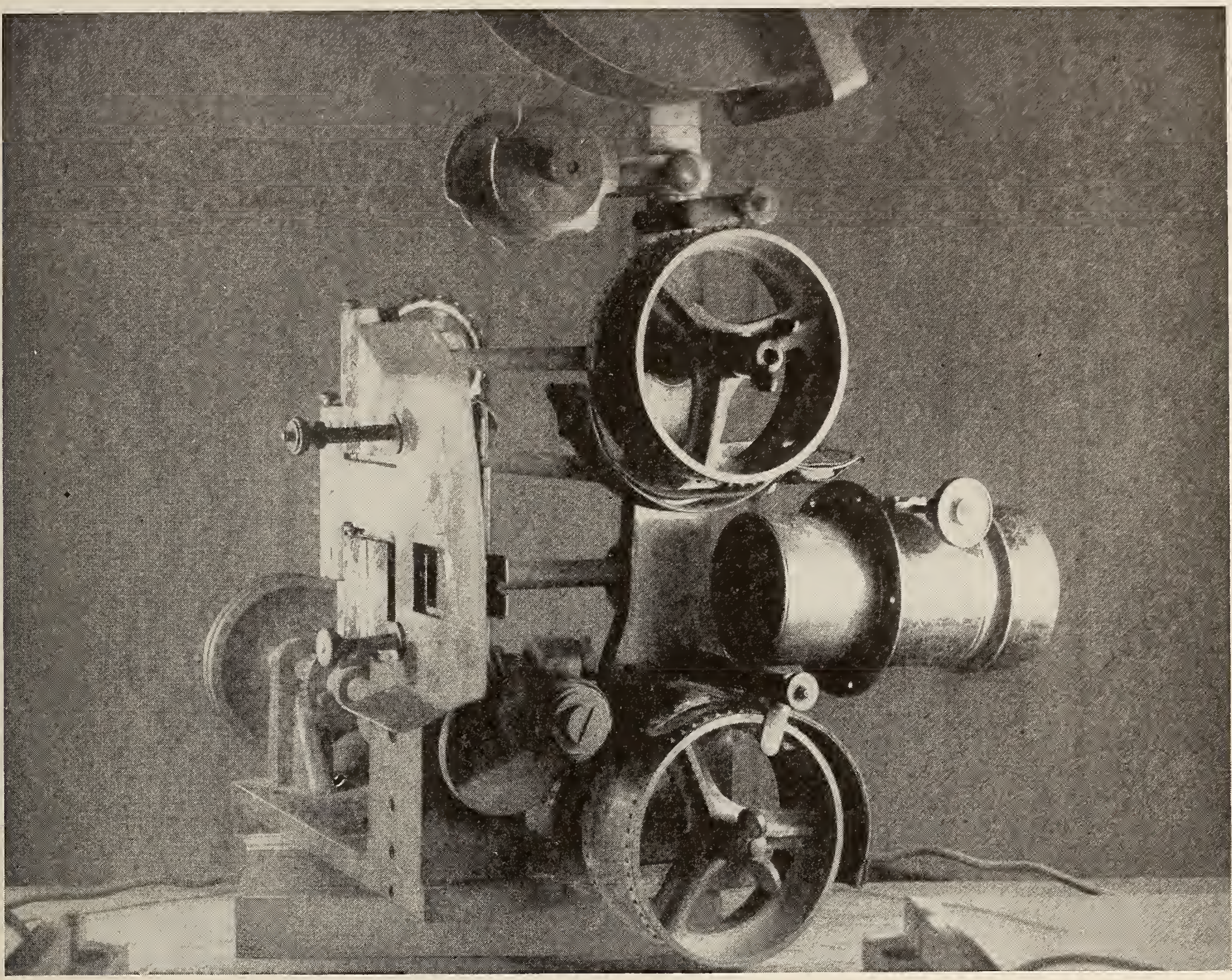
See Policy Shift as 8 Regain Studio Jobs

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—Disclosing that eight publicists have been restored to studio employment since last weekend, the Screen Publicists Guild interprets this as a reversal of the recent downward trend in publicity department employment. The guild also maintains that the move indicates a general decision to intensify promotional efforts as a means of increasing domestic yield to offset the loss of overseas markets.

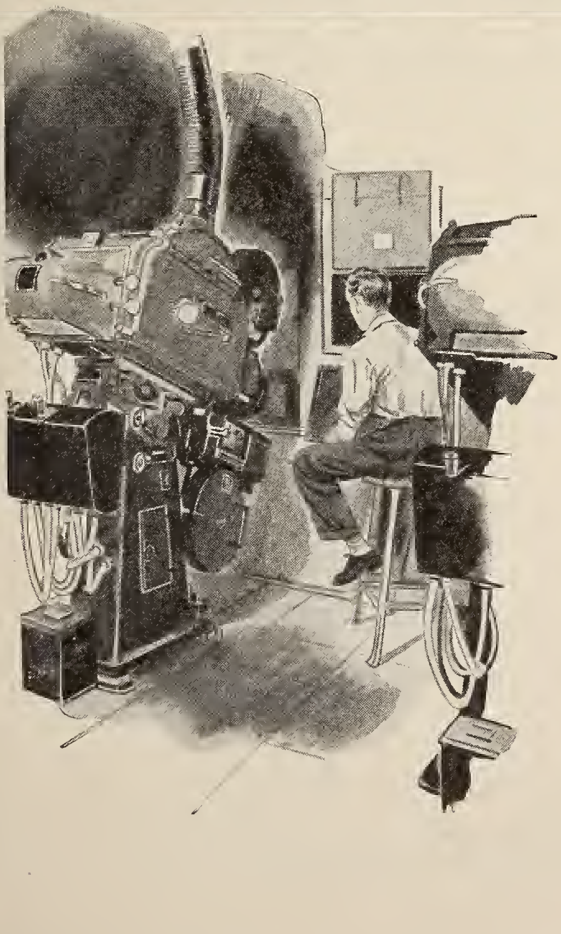
The reversal comes in the wake of a pruning policy, according to reports, which had reduced studio publicity units to such an extent that servicing of resident correspondents, newspapers, magazines and radio outlets was overloading the staff personnel.

Broidy, Ritchey Back

Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, and Norton V. Ritchey, president of AA and Monogram International, will arrive here today after two months in England and European countries, visiting all of their company's foreign exchanges and conferring with various studio heads. Broidy will remain here one week before leaving for Shreveport, La., to attend the world premiere of "Louisiana."



The Armat Vitascope which projected the first theater movie, April 23, 1896.



With this, the "unseen showman" got his epoch-making start . . .

THE projectionist has come a long, long way . . . since the 1890's when he put on his show with equipment such as this.

And today, as then, much of a motion picture's success depends upon the unseen showman in his booth.

To his sure sense of split-second timing . . . to his alert control of sound . . . to his deft handling of elaborate equipment . . . the film illusion owes much of its dramatic, realistic presentation on the screen.

Helping the projectionist to keep the mechanics of the medium from intruding is the top quality of Eastman motion picture films (both sight and sound) . . . members of a famous family started more than fifty years ago.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

'Foxes' and Berle Top 1st Runs; 'Fury,' 'Desire' and 'Fun' Big

Four healthy newcomers made their box-office weight felt by a decided boost in overall returns at New York first runs this week. However, matinee business prospects for the next several days are not too bright, with the World Series expected to draw New Yorkers' attention. Theatremen are hopeful that evening income will prove a compensating factor in view of the number of visitors for the baseball contests.

"The Foxes of Harrow" and Milton Berle in person are proving a tremendous hit in combination at the Roxy where, according to executive director A. J. Balaban, a new opening day record was established, on a $23,900 take. The first week's gross is estimated at a mammoth $140,000.

'Desert Fury' Nets $83,000

"Desert Fury" went into the Paramount, accompanied by Desi Arnaz, for an estimated $83,000 for the first week; that's good. A good initial appearance also was made by "Desire Me," with Gene Krupa and Rose Marie, at the Capitol, where $74,000 is indicated for its first week. And the crowds turned up, too, for "Fun and Fancy Free" at the Globe. The show is doing sparkling business and is likely to hit $40,000 in a first week.

Holdover business is running about normal. The Astor's "Secret Life of Walter Mitty" is chalking up a neat $43,000 in a seventh week, while for the same stanza "Life with Father," at the Warner, is ringing up a handsome $32,000. The fifth week of "Gone with the Wind" is likely to give the Criterion a robust $30,000; next at that house will be "Green Dolphin Street," to open there on Oct. 15.

At the Music Hall, "Down to Earth," with a stage presentation, continues in the top-money bracket, with $115,000 apparent for a third week. "The Long Night" held up well enough in a second week at the Palace, the gross being estimated at $18,000; it will be replaced next Tuesday by "Magic Town."

'Legits' Return to Fulton

The Fulton is dark again in preparation for a return to "legit" shows after a highly successful run of "Black Narcissus," which drew about $6,000 in its last four and one-half days, two and one-half short of a seventh week.

The fourth week of "Dark Passage" and Victor Lombardo's orchestra, at the Strand, is figured at a fairly sound $42,000, while a second week of "Singapore" should provide the Winter Garden with a profitable $20,000.

With $10,600 in view for a sixth week, "I Know Where I'm Going" seems to be going in the right direction at the Sutton. "Frieda" in a seventh week at the Park should rake in about $7,000, giving no room for complaints. The Little Carnegie sees a favorable $7,800 for the fourth week of "Tawny Pipit."

"The Outlaw" continues to attract multitudes to the Broadway, where the third week's receipts are estimated at $55,000. "The Spirit of West Point" will bow in at the Victoria tonight, following "Lured," which held its own for seven weeks, the last bringing in $9,500.

"Each Dawn I Die" and "Badmen of Missouri," Warner reissues, should give the Gotham about $11,500, which is good, in a second week. The fifth week of "Kiss of Death" brought about $18,000 to the Mayfair. At the Rivoli, "Crossfire" is still active, taking close to $22,000 in a 10th week; "Unconquered" plays there next.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by ents.

CHICAGO

"Kiss of Death" teed off at the Garrick with unanimous praise from the critics starting it on its way to heavy grosses. Loop business in general is picking up with cool weather and new product pulling in crowds. Estimated receipts for the crowds ending Oct. 2:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,000)

CRY WOLF (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,000)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $11,500)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) ($1.25) 6th week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $30,000)

LURED (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c) On stage: Beatrice Kay and Joe Howard. Gross: $51,000. (Average: $40,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $52,000)

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,080) (95c) 9th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,500)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) Plus SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,500)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 9th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Results are uneven at first-run theatres. Among new films, "Welcome Stranger" is heading for one of the season's higher grosses. Weather has been pleasant. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 30-Oct. 1:

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—KEITH'S (1,300) (90c-$1.25) 6 days, on a moveover from the Circle. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,500)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $6,000)

UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M) and THE ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $12,000)

PITTSBURGH

RKO's "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" broke away to a very strong $20,000 for its opening week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $8,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70) 3rd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,200)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,700)

LURED (UA)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover from the J. P. Harris. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,200)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)

WILD HARVEST (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $13,000. Average: $25,000)

DENVER

"Variety Girl" came close to setting a record at the Denham. Grosses generally were uneven. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

CITY WITHOUT MEN (Col.) and PRISON WITHOUT BARS (UA)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

DARK PASSAGE (WB) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Esquire. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000)

DARK PASSAGE (WB) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) day-and-date with Denver. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,500)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After two weeks each at the Paramount and Esquire. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). After a week each at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Webber. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $11,000)

BUFFALO

Business was unusually good with "Life with Father," which beat its first week's figure at the Hippodrome. Weather has been cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4:

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) and STEPCHILD (E-L)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,000)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,000)

WILD HARVEST (Para.) and YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)

TORONTO

Business is off slightly, generally speaking. With bright fall weather prevailing, football offered keen competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,800)

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,300)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,200)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,400)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c 35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $9,200)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,600. (Average: $14,600)

POSSESSED (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $14,900)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,600)

Short Subjects

"T-Men in Action"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

Uncle Sam's relentless Treasury Department sleuths have plenty of exciting duties, it is pointed out in this highly interesting and entertaining March of Time. Touched upon are the "detecting" operati[illegible] of agents in various divisions of t[illegible]epartment—Customs, Bureau of Narcotics, Secret Service, Intelligence, Alcohol Tax Unit and Coast Guard.

It is cops-and-robbers all the way, and audiences should thrill to the efficient manner in which the "T-Men" work, and they should get satisfaction in the knowledge that their Government offers such first-rate protection against smugglers, counterfeiters, forgers and other malefactors. The film was produced in cooperation with the Treasury Department. Running time, 18 minutes.

Services for Buchanan

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—Services were held here yesterday for Byron B. Buchanan, 62, who died suddenly from a heart attack late last week while attending the TESMA-TEDPA convention in Washington. Buchanan was sales manager of the theatre seat division of the Kroehler Manufacturing Co. Prior to joining Kroehler, he was in charge of new theatre construction for Balaban and Katz and also supervised building of European theatres for Paramount-International. He is survived by the widow, Alma. Burial will take place in Dalton, O.

Services for Horowitz

CLEVELAND, Sept. 30. — Harry L. Horwitz, 62, manager for the past 21 years and part owner of the Astor Theatre, here, who died suddenly last Saturday of a heart attack following a minor operation, was buried today from the Temple Memorial Funeral Home. He is survived by the widow, Irma, a daughter, Dorothy, three brothers and three sisters.

W. B. Davidson Rites

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—Funeral services were held here today for William B. Davidson, 41, vice-president and general manager of Redwood Theatres, who died on Sunday.

MPA Field Surveys

(*Continued from page 1*)

will be used for all 31 territories. At the outset, directories will be released semi-weekly, with New Haven, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Seattle and Washington scheduled for early publication.

Each directory is divided into three major sections. The first provides a listing of all theatres by town and population, indicating circuit affiliation (if any), seating capacity, days operated per week and the name of the company or person signing film contracts. The second section contains a listing of all reported circuit theatres according to operating organization, while the last section lists the names and addresses of local exchange offices and personnel.

A statistical summary will be a part of each directory. The composite seating capacity of all open theatres is shown on the basis of major population groupings, listing the number of towns with theatres, the number of theatres in operation, number of seats and average seats per theatre. (The summary appears on this page).

The work of collecting data on a national scale was started last December by Robert W. Chambers, research director of the MPA. Many prominent exhibitors and exhibitor organizations as well as branch managers and other executives in the industry assisted in collecting the data.

Sugarman

(*Continued from page 1*)

the Universal-International 16mm. overseas department, his promotion to the UW vice-presidency reflects the integration of Universal-Rank 16mm. activities into United World channels.

Sugarman went to work in a local film exchange upon graduation from New York University, in 1927. His foreign languages brought him to Paramount's Panama office, and then he came back to Astoria Studios to head up foreign adaptation and production work.

After five years as district manager for United Artists in Latin America, Sugarman put in another five as an independent producer in Hollywood, followed by seven years with Universal.

Bill Unpaid

(*Continued from page 1*).

that the latter could have no bearing on the Supreme Court hearing date for the appeals.

New York attorneys said yesterday they knew of no reason for delay in forwarding payment for printing of the record of the New York case and said they assumed that it would be cleared well before the Supreme Court hearing is set. John W. Davis of counsel for Loew's was said to be in charge of the matter.

Theatre Deals

(*Continued from page 1*)

solutions of all pooled theatre interests which became outlawed as of that date. Sporadic instances of uncertainty regarding whether some intricate joint ownerships constituted illegal pooling operations also were reported on. These apparently were passed by the Department of Justice which took no action regarding them.

The next reports to the court are due Jan. 1.

Buffalo Exchange Territory Statistical Summary

(As Compiled by the Motion Picture Association)

	Number	*Seating Capacity*
Theatres in operation*....	303	262,758
Closed theatres**	18	12,770
Totals	321	275,528

	Number	*Seating Capacity*
Circuit-operated theatres†	177	182,026
Non-circuit theatres......	144	93,502
Totals	321	275,528

Seating capacity of theatres now in operation, according to population groupings:

Population	*Towns with Theatres*	*Cumulative Total*	*No. of Theatres Operating*	*Cumulative Total*	*Number of Seats*	*Cumulative Total*	*Average Seats Per Theatre*
Over 500,000......	1 (Buffalo)	..	63	...	63,790	......	1,012
500,000—250,001...	1 (Rochester)	2	31	94	34,404	98,194	1,110
250,000—100,001...	1 (Syracuse)	3	24	118	26,664	124,858	1,111
100,000— 50,001...	2	5	21	139	22,601	147,459	1,076
50,000— 25,001...	3	8	13	152	16,401	163,860	1,262
25,000— 10,001...	17	25	46	198	44,978	208,838	977
10,000— 5,001...	16	41	20	218	16,543	225,381	827
5,000— 2,501...	24	65	24	242	14,914	240,295	621
2,500 and under ..	61	126	61	303	22,463	262,758	368

** Excluding three drive-in theatres, total capacity 2,000 automobiles.*

*** Excluding one drive-in theatre, capacity 900 automobiles.*

†A circuit is defined as "four or more" theatres operated by the same management.

Rhoden Warns

(*Continued from page 1*)

here had cautioned him that that had been their experience after they had helped to get BMI established.

Rhoden presided at the recent Theatre Owners of America panel on Ascap in Washington where exhibitors were warned of a BMI theatre music tax by E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, and Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States.

Fred Wehrenberg, TOA board chairman, urged support of the new national exhibitor organization in his address. Assuring the convention that TOA would be most active in the trade practice field, he said no exhibitor organization can survive unless it engages in trade practices.

H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, told the convention that his company is now servicing 512 drive-in theatres and said the number will increase greatly when building restrictions and other current problems are removed.

Richey said he credits only six per cent of the industry to Hollywood, and 94 per cent to exhibition and distribution, yet observed that almost the entire public opinion concerning the industry is formed by Hollywood.

Leon Bamberger, RKO exhibitor relations director, also spoke.

Carriers Set

(*Continued from page 1*)

Francisco, Los Angeles and Denver, and additional buildings will be constructed at other points as needed.

Henceforth all future business, both new and renewals of existing contracts, will be handled through the national office in Philadelphia, and which is already supplying some of uniform materials. Eventually, standard forms will be provided for records and reports on billings.

Annual meetings will be held hereafter on the second Monday in January. Officers previously elected are serving through this meeting, and until the next annual meeting, including James P. Clark, Philadelphia, president and treasurer; Thomas Gilboy, San Francisco, vice-president, and Clint Weyer, secretary. Meeting continues through Wednesday.

Allied Board Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

ing Allied's caravan; progress of the national convention committee; the prevailing print shortage; the growing competition of free television shows; and the all-industry good-will film, "Power Behind the Nation."

Of the ASCAP matter, the report said in part:

"Allied leaders are convinced that ASCAP's conciliatory attitude as reflected in the trade papers is the result of the heat continuously and increasingly applied by militant independent producers. They know that if the anti-ASCAP campaign were suddenly to be abandoned, the appeasers who are operating under cover of Allied's fire would be left high and dry."

The board will discuss whether it should press the issue of road show prices before the joint Congressional committee now investigating the high cost of living.

Justice Dept. Ponders Whether It Can Act Against Ascap Fee Rise

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Justice Department officials say it will not be easy to decide whether they can intervene in ASCAP's demands for a 300 per cent increase in license fees for theatres.

"What can you do to an organization for raising prices?" said one Anti-Trust Division spokesman.

"It is not unlawful," commented another, "to raise the price to whatever you can get in the absence of an anti-trust law on the subject. The question here is over the right of an organization to avail itself of the copyright laws to control the prices of its members.

"We are also looking into the matter of whether this is merely a question of degree, in other words, just where a price raise ceases to be legitimate and instead becomes a Sherman Act violation if attempted by an organization."

"This thing is being studied and it is tough," he observed.

New York Theatre Burns

INLET, N. Y., Sept. 30.—The Gaiety Motion Picture Theatre was burned out two days ago by fire that for a time threatened an entire block.

Cole Taps Sentiment For Kan.-Mo. Allied

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 30.—H. A. Cole, vice-president of Allied States, and president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, who is attending the Film Carriers convention here, has been sounding out exhibitor sentiment for formation of a new Kansas-Missouri Allied. He has set up headquarters at the Phillips Hotel, where the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association is holding its convention.

ASCAP Delay

(*Continued from page 1*)

Levy, general counsel of Theatre Owners of America, which was instrumental in obtaining the further delay, told the convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners Association here.

Levy warned exhibitors not to sign new Ascap contracts but to request a continuation of present rates from the time individual exhibitors' contracts expire, to Feb. 1.

Levy also said that the TOA has reason to believe that Congress will reduce the present 20 per cent Federal admission tax by one-half. He termed the tax "discriminatory and unfair, requiring exhibitors to carry a disproportionate share of the Government's postwar budgeting burden."

He commended the TOA to the exhibitors as an organization prepared to help them solve trade problems which exhibitors cannot individually handle.

"We are pleased," he said, "that in this association there will be affiliated, partially affiliated and independent exhibitors sitting around the table in harmony, facing common problems with a united front."

Tough on Smokers

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 30. — Fifteen days in jail, without the option of a fine, is now the penalty for smoking in local theatres. The municipal government, irked because fining smokers failed to curb them, decided that only a stiff spell in jail fits the offense.

Films Not Cleared In Argentine Decree

Although the Argentine government, through its Banco Nationale, has granted temporary import licenses, films have not been specifically mentioned among the products for which import licenses may be granted, according to Argentine sources here.

A decree promulgated by the government gives wide discretion to the Banco Nationale to grant temporary import licenses for many products, including "essential cultural products." Whether films will be placed in the category of "essential cultural products" is still undecided.

The bank originally froze film funds in Argentina in a step regarded as having been caused by the fact that Argentina is unable to convert British pound sterling into dollars.

The temporary licenses are good only for 15 days, but the detailed restrictions have not yet been made clear, according to Argentine sources.

Australia Decision

(*Continued from page* 1)

representatives there "had made satisfactory progress," and that a decision now rested with the principals here.

Indications that the negotiations in Australia had made definite progress were seen in a statement yesterday made by Prime Minister Chifley in Canberra, who said that the Australian government might be able to insure the desired reduction of 20 per cent in the dollar remittances from U. S. film interests in Australia without imposing a special tax. Originally, Chifley had indicated that his government might have to impose a special tax to insure the saving of $2,400,000 a year in present remittances.

In 1946, earnings of American films in Australia amounted to about $6,600,000. According to Australian advices, the proposed reduction would mean that about $1,980,000 would have to be re-invested in Australia.

Executives in the companies' foreign departments here declined to comment.

Fight Sunday Film Ban

HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 30. — Proposed lifting of the ban on Sunday motion picture performances in this city has become one of the chief issues in the present mayoralty campaign. The committee campaigning for Sunday openings has filed a petition with more than 9,100 signatures of voters, thus assuring that the question will be on the ballot in November.

Grant Prod. Formed

Dwinell Grant and David Freeman have organized Dwinell Grant Productions, with offices and studios here, for the production of special purpose films, with Warren Sturgis as head of the technical departments and Orestes Calpini heads the animation and art departments.

Burks to Warners

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 30. — Al Burks, former public relations agent with the local Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer branch, has been engaged by Warner Brothers to handle key pictures of that company in the Carolinas.

Reviews

"The Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap"

(*Universal-International*)

BUD ABBOTT and Lou Costello, two city slickers selling household specialties, arrive in a rough and tumble Western town and find themselves caught up in a welter of farcical complications. The comedy is full of zany improbabilities and occasional cliches, but withal, there were continuous howls at its trade press screening. The film is on a par with previous Abbott-Costello fare, and exhibitors thus can judge the reaction of patrons in individual situations to the comedians.

No sooner do the pair arrive in Wagon Gap than they are charged with murder. Their necks, however, are saved from the noose, when an old statute is discovered making the murderer responsible for the debts and dependents of the victim. Thus, Costello finds himself responsible for the widow, Marjorie Main, and a collection of kids, all wildcats. This being the case, Costello has a charmed life, as none of the town's hardened gunmen would dare touch him for fear of the responsibilities. Costello becomes the town's toughest man, gets appointed sheriff, and even thwarts an intended stagecoach robbery. A final plot twist, however, dissolves Costello's charmed life and he comes close to losing his scalp. Other in the cast are: Audrey Young, George Cleveland and Gordon Jones. Robert Lees, Frederic I. Rinaldo and John Grant did the screenplay, Charles T. Barton directed and Robert Arthur produced.

Running time, 78 minutes. General audience classification. For October release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Gangster"

(*King Brothers-Allied Artists*)

Hollywood, Sept. 29

KING BROTHERS again offer the stellar pairing of Belita and Barry Sullivan so successfully used in yast year's "Suspense," and this time adding the names of Akim Tamiroff and Joan Lorring as marquee material; and again the theme is gangsterism. These circumstances suggest the likelihood of a lively box-office response from the public which rewarded "Suspense" with bumper grosses. Whether the same public will react in the same way to the King Brothers' resort to the psychological at a considerable sacrifice of the physical in their present camera study of gangster phenomena—and will reconcile itself to the fact that Belita does not do any skating this time—is a question for exhibition experience to determine. It is on the record that the King Brothers have not guessed wrong yet on what makes gangster pictures click, and that record appears to entitle them to any benefit of doubt pending trial.

In contrast to previous King Brothers melodramas, this filming of Daniel Fuchs' novel, "Low Company," from a screenplay by the author, abounds in dialogue and skimps on action. The dialogue, much of it sounding as if lifted intact from the pages of the novel, centers around the mental makeup of the title character, played by Sullivan, in evident effort to show that a man's misdeeds sort of pile up on him, in his memory department, until finally he distrusts everybody, fears everything, and yet, if he is the gangster type, seeks to correct matters by more intensified application to crime rather than by reform. The thing that militates against the success of the Fuchs script appears to be mainly that the gangster's deeds of evil are all in the past before the picture opens, from which point on some newcomers in his district boot him around with so little resistance that there is no excitement in the story.

Belita portrays a show girl who loves the guy but can't make him believe it. Tamiroff portrays a timid storekeeper affiliated with the gangster, and Miss Lorring is seen as his unsympathetic cashier. Sheldon Leonard plays the opposition gangster, whom the script also limits to oral violence for the most part, and the cast also includes Fifi D'Orsay, Henry Morgan, Leif Erickson, Virginia Christine, John Ireland, Charles McGraw, John Kellogg and Theodore Hecht. Gordon Wiles directed, for co-producers Maurice and Frank King, getting in some nice touches here and there, but the script was too much to beat.

Running time, 83½ minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 22.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

1,000 Attend Fete For Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt called upon the American people to support this country's delegation in the United Nations in ceremonies, honoring her for her contributions to human welfare and her efforts in promoting international understanding and inter-faith amity, tendered at the Hotel Astor here last night by Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith. More than 1,000 industry leaders, Lodge members and guests attended.

Bob Weitman, president of Cinema Lodge, made the presentation. Col. Murray Gurfein, legal adviser to the Jewish Agency for Palestine in hearings before the U.N. Commission was also present.

British Film Premiere

A semi-documentary film, "The Girl of the Canal," British, will have its American premiere here on Oct. 8 at Brandt's 42nd Street Apollo and Brandt's Atlantic Playhouse in Brooklyn. The film, which runs 48 minutes, will be shown in conjunction with the American debut of "Midnight in Paris," French, starring Raimu.

Two New French Films

Herman G. Weinberg has completed English titles for two new French films, "L'Eternel Retour" and "Voyage Surprise." "L'Eternel Retour," an Andre Paulve production, will be distributed here by Discina International Films, and "Voyage Surprise" by Duke International Films.

MPEA Rejects

(*Continued from page* 1)

and under which members of the MPEA will refrain from offering distribution rights for Denmark except through their usual distribution channels.

Member company representatives also voted to continue to distribute films in Denmark under existing distribution arrangements as long as permitted by the Danish government, but under no other arrangement. A spokesman for the MPEA [illegible] that it was impossible to tell how much longer the Danish government might permit distribution under the present setup.

Affirmative votes were cast by representatives of Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Universal-International and Warner Brothers. In the absence of the Allied Artists director, Norton V. Ritchey, a spokesman for that member told the meeting that his company could go along with the action within the limits of present contractual commitments. Donald Nelson, MPEA director-at-large, who attended, said he would call a meeting of producers who release through United Artists in order that they might individually instruct UA how to proceed with reference to their product.

The letter sent by the Danish Board of Supply to the eight companies in Denmark and to other Danish distributors of foreign films, prescribed a certain amount of foreign currency which could be allocated "during the first period of allocation, from Oct. 1, 1947, to Feb. 29, 1948."

It added that "during the first allocation period, foreign films may be cleared through customs on a percentage basis. Clearing after Feb. 29, 1948, may only take place on the basis of a fixed price for each separate film. Conditions for buying foreign films are to be submitted to the directorate for approval, together with the application for import license."

The letter also said: "Out of the amount set off for payment of all expenses in foreign currencies in connection with importing and showing foreign films for exhibition, this quota" (referring to the amount of foreign currency which could be allocated) "of foreign currency is the maximum amount which may be transferred to foreign countries by the companies under any form whatsoever during the first period of allocation."

Norton V. Ritchey Elected MPEA Director at Meeting

Norton V. Ritchey, head of the foreign department of Allied Artists and Monogram, was elected representative director for Allied Artists yesterday at the MPEA meeting here. Allied joined MPEA on Sept. 1, 1947, to become MPEA's ninth member company.

SIMPP-Majors

(*Continued from page* 1)

rangement under which 25 per cent of remittable dollars would be frozen by the British. It is reliably understood the companies would still agree to a percentage of blocked currency while the independents, anxious for a quick return on their investments, are seeking another way out.

Nelson said he has yet to hear from the Reconstruction Finance Corp. regarding his request for financing for members of SIMPP.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 66 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1947 TEN CENTS

Opposition to Tilted-Price Product Grows

TOA May Ask 3-Per-Year Limit; 8 Now Listed

Further evidence of resentment towards increased admission price pictures comes to the fore here as the number of forthcoming films either under consideration or definitely set to play at tilted scales jumped to eight.

"Captain from Castile," "Forever Amber," "Arch of Triumph," "Life with Father" and "Unconquered" already are slated for advanced-price exhibition. Among other possibilities are "Green Dolphin Street," "The Bishop's Wife" and "Tap Roots."

While the Theatre Owners of America has not yet established a definite policy regarding such product, it is known that some principals of the organization feel the market is likely to be deluged with the increased price

(Continued on page 6)

Chicago Exhibitors Fight Tax Proposal

Chicago, Oct. 1.—In a three-hour stormy session, more than 50 independent theatre owners and circuit executives, joined by representatives of other amusements including sports, today met with the City Council license committee to present their views on the proposed three per cent tax on gross receipts. Among theatre men present were Edwin Silverman, Jack Kirsch, James Coston, Harry and Elmer Balaban, Arthur Schoenstadt, Frank Smith, Walter Immerman and Morris Leonard.

Crux of their opposition was in

(Continued on page 4)

Three Others File Theatre Reports

Loew's, Warners and National Theatres (20th Century-Fox) yesterday told the New York Federal Court that no theatre transactions have taken place since they filed their first such quarterly report last July 1. Paramount and RKO filed similarly on Tuesday, reporting no changes.

In its statement, however, Loew's

(Continued on page 6)

KMTA Joins TOA; Strowig Re-elected

Kansas City, Oct. 1.—Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association today formally joined the Theatre Owners of America with the naming of Dick Biechele as director on the TOA board. He was also appointed by the K-MTA board as representative on legislative matters in Kansas and Missouri.

Homer Strowig of Kansas City today was reelected president at its convention at the Hotel Phillips here. Also relected were Elmer Bills, vice-president, and C. E. Cook, secretary.

Directors named are George Baker, H. E. Becker, R. R. Biechele, Dale Danielson, Tom Edwards, Jay Means, Glen Hall, Ralph Larned, J. A. Pennington, Frank Plumlee, Elmer Rhoden, C. A. Schultz, Frank Weary and Don Phillips.

Resolutions adopted by the organization included one against advanced admission price pictures. It was said

(Continued on page 6)

Para. Has 50 Millions Ready for Theatres

Paramount is prepared to invest a large part of a $50,000,000 financing now on hand in a theatre acquisition program if the Supreme Court approves next year. The company has available a $25,000,000 revolving fund, $5,000,000 of which already has been taken, and it has in its treasury about 500,000 shares of its own common stock which Barney Balaban, president, has said he figures will carry more weight than actual cash in trans-

(Continued on page 6)

CEA LEADERS DUE HERE ON U. K. TAX

Fuller, Davis To Meet Johnston on Compromise; Have B. of T. 'Blessing'

By PETER BURNUP

London, Oct. 1.—W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, president, are scheduled to leave here by plane for Washington immediately to confer with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in an effort to break the impasse over a compromise on Britain's film import tax and the resultant continuance of the embargo on American film shipments to England.

The two have been informed by Johnston that their visit is welcomed by the MPA.

While it is emphasized here that the Fuller-Davis mission cannot be interpreted as an indication of a capitulation by Britain on the film tax, it is, nevertheless, the first move by

(Continued on page 7)

Beaverbrook Paper Still Pipe-Dreaming

London, Oct. 1.—The latest of a number of erroneous stories to be published by Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express* here about the Anglo-American film setup appears on page one today.

The story asserts that the Control of Exchange Act, which becomes operative today, requires Americans planning to produce films in Britain to provide their own capital, with the dollars to be paid to the Bank of England. This will mean, according to American managing directors whom the

(Continued on page 7)

Wm. Clark Elected NFS Vice-President

Kansas City, Oct. 1.—Board of managers of National Film Service today set up the office of executive vice-president and named William J. Clark to the post, placing him in charge of management immediately. The board's action followed the convention of stockholders of the organization, of which National Film Carriers, Inc., is a part. Both held meetings here, and are affiliates.

Clark will devote full time to NFS. He has been handling general man-

(Continued on page 6)

Grosses of U. K. Films Now Beat U.S., Says Rank

London, Oct. 1.—In a report to directors of British Odeon Theatres, J. Arthur Rank stated that whereas in 1943 each of the circuit's houses grossed on an average of 506 pounds ($2,024) per week on British films and 571 pounds ($2,284) on American films, this year the British pictures averaged 694 pounds ($2,776) per theatre and American pictures 583 pounds ($2,332). The gross figures are after tax deductions.

Rank claimed in his report that this year's Rank financing operations—whereby 13,335,000 pounds ($53,340,000) were raised—were "no mean

(Continued on page 7)

Continued Bank Aid Eases UA Tension

Hollywood, Oct. 1.—Tension between United Artists management and producers over plans of the company's president, Gradwell L. Sears, to acquire several RKO productions for UA release, appeared eased today following assurance by Sears that the Bank of America and Security First National will supply financing for productions approved as good risks. Change in the banks' atti-

(Continued on page 6)

40% Boxoffice Drop In England: Ostrer

Theatre attendance in England dropped 40 per cent in the period from March to Sept. 1, compared with last year's figures for a similar period, Mark Ostrer, managing director of Gaumont-British, disclosed here yesterday. He added, however, that there had been a "slight upgrade" in

(Continued on page 7)

May Halt Shipments Of Film to Denmark

The possibility that American film companies may stop film shipments to Denmark, as was done in the case of Britain, loomed yesterday following word from Denmark that the Danish government had decreed that U.S. film

(Continued on page 7)

Reviewed Today

"The Spirit of West Point" is reviewed on page 4.

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, president of Republic, is in town from Hollywood.

•

George A. Smith, Paramount Western division sales manager, and Harold Wirthwein, captain of the company's 1947 sales drive, have returned to their headquarters in Los Angeles from a tour of West and Midwest branches.

•

Joe diLorenzo, Connecticut district manager for Daly Theatre Corp., Hartford, is in Hartford Hospital recuperating from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

•

Oliver B. Johnston, secretary of Walt Disney Prod., and Mrs. Johnston, will leave here tomorrow for Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

Herman Gluckman, president of Nu-Screen Corp., and Stanley Hand, general sales manager, have returned here from Washington.

•

Harold Senor of the Loew Theatre publicity department, Cleveland, and Adelle Bruder will be married in December.

•

Sam Burkett and Irving Allen, Monogram producers, are in New York for home office conferences.

•

Harry Cohn, president of Columbia, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

Leonard Steffens, Columbia head booker in Cleveland, has been promoted to office manager.

Film Arbitrators Get 511th Case

The 511th case to be filed with the motion picture tribunal of the American Arbitration Association since it commenced operations on Feb. 1, 1941, was reported by the AAA here yesterday. It is the 38th case to be filed this year.

Latest complainants are Norman Bialek and Martin Fessler, operators of the Astor in North Bergen, N. J. They seek elimination or reduction to one day on clearance granted to the Temple, Union City, N. J.; Rialto, West New York, N. J., and the Alvin, at Guttenberg, N. J., and reduction to one day on clearance granted to the Mayfair, at West New York. The case is against the five majors. Complainants claim that the Astor is not in substantial competition with the other theatres mentioned.

Additionally, the Astor's operators demand that pictures be made available to the house no later than 24 days after their conclusion at either the Embassy, North Bergen, or the Capitol, Union City, whichever shall play sooner.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

RECENTLY, this forum sought to make a point bearing on the advanced price attraction. The theory allowed that exhibitor resistance might become diluted if the distributor displayed enough confidence in his merchandise permitting theatremen to play it on their normally worst nights instead of insisting upon those coveted Saturdays and Sundays when business is usually tops anyway.

This approach took on added impetus as a consequence of Andy Smith's policy for "Forever Amber." He is after those weekends, of course, but is not insisting because the feeling around 20th-Fox is audiences are panting for "Amber" and will flock to it on any night of the week. Not long after, Ned Depinet made the identical point about "The Best Years."

Illustrations of distributor faith in the product he is offering at increased prices.

■

In Washington, to no one's astonishment, the advanced price film was accorded considerable attention, chiefly in committee and thereafter by the TOA convention body which determined on a delegation to confer with company presidents. All of the known arguments were thrown on the table and not much new added.

Particularly disturbing, however, was the percentage of increase through which prevailing price structures are compelled to pass before arriving at $1.20 or $1.25. The larger operators, who are not too far removed from that level, were much less upset than the small man, who is faced with the need to jump his scale by 200 or 300 per cent. They described this as "murderous," as well as "impossible," and a lot of other things.

■

It is in this connection that a letter on hand from Arthur H. Lockwood, who runs 20 New England theatres out of Boston, is interesting. Excerpts:

"Starting with the premise that a picture is big enough in scope and entertainment value, as compared with the average picture, to warrant advanced prices, I am not opposed to having such pictures shown at an increased admission. However, I am very much opposed to having the distributors set a uniform admission price for all theatres for the entire United States and insisting that the picture be shown at that admission.

"In a city like Boston, where the first run price is about 85 cents, where a picture is roadshown at $1.20, the increase is not too sharp; and, while the public is not happy about it, they seem to accept the scale for the proper attraction.

"However, where the first run admission in a smaller city is 50 or 60 cents and the price is jumped to $1.20, the percentage of increase is so sharp that it creates terrific resistance and resentment from the patrons, and I believe that in most instances the pictures will not do well in such theatres."

■

Citing unsatisfactory results with the $1.20 attraction, Lockwood proceeds to this:

"On the other hand, in past years we have taken certain pictures which were better than the usual run of 'A' pictures, but not quite good enough by ordinary standards to be classified as of roadshow calibre, and increased the admission price in our smaller situations by about 50 per cent. We found practically no criticism or reaction from our patrons and the engagements were overwhelmingly successful. I can best illustrate this by telling you that at 85 cents with a picture inferior in quality and publicity value, we outgrossed 'The Best Years' in the same theatre by a substantial percentage."

Here is where he arrives at a plan, italics ours:

"If pictures have to be shown at so-called 'roadshow' prices in order for the producer to recoup his investment, I think *the producer should give serious consideration to a plan whereby the large cities in the United States would show the picture at a uniform admission price of say,* $1.20; *then after a short lapse of time, the picture should be released to the smaller cities and towns and exhibited at an admission price* 50 *per cent higher than the regular admission price of the theatre.* On such a basis, I firmly believe, based on our own experience, that the public would be more satisfied and that both the theatre owner and the producer would fare better in the net results."

Lockwood does not stand alone. The Washington meetings established plenty of companion exhibitors who think along these lines. TOA's committee, under instruction to relieve the unrest provided the company presidents prove malleable, may find a key here.

■

Meanwhile, Allied observed yesterday, "There appears to be a disposition on the part of producers-distributors to make a killing during the open season" [until the Supreme Court rules rules on price-fixing.]

U. S. Reports Drop In Admission Tax

Washington, Oct. 1.—August tax collections based on July box-office receipts took a sharp decline, according to tax figures released today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

General admission tax collections for the month, including admissions to legitimate theatres, sporting events, and other places of entertainment [illegible]s well as motion picture theatres, excluding cabaret collections and certain miscellaneous charges, totaled $29,309,491, against $33,593,512 for July last year and $34,972,435 for July, 1947, collections.

This was a drop of over $4,284,000, or about 15 per cent from the August, 1946, level.

Cabaret taxes, which have been off for many months, continued well below the 1946 level in August, with collections for August, 1947, of $4,028,584 against $5,790,416 in August last year. Total admission tax collections, including general admissions, cabaret taxes, and miscellaneous collections, totaled $33,511,582 this August compared with $39,537,780 for August, 1946.

Sir Alexander King To Be Feted by MPA

Sir Alexander King, Scottish exhibitor, will be given a luncheon by the Motion Picture Association on Oct. 8 at the "21" Club, here, with film company presidents and heads of foreign departments attending.

Sir Alexander, who arrived yesterday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth,* controls 88 theatres in Scotland, where he is that country's most important exhibitor.

Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the MPA's international division, is in charge of arrangements for the luncheon.

110 Groups Back 'Family Life' Parley

Washington, Oct. 1.—Some 110 national organizations have joined in the call for a National Conference on Family Life, to be held at the White House on May 6-8, Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, announced.

Johnston heads the Family Life board of directors. His position is regarded here as building up goodwill for pictures, since the other groups cover a wide range of organizations angled into family and home life.

Keith Named UA Branch Manager

W. T. Keith has been promoted from salesman to branch manager in New Orleans for United Artists, by J. J. Unger, general sales manager. He succeeds T. L. Davis, who died suddenly last week in that city.

Keith, who started with UA as salesman in Atlanta, was transferred to New Orleans in March, 1946. During the war, he served with the Army Air Forces.

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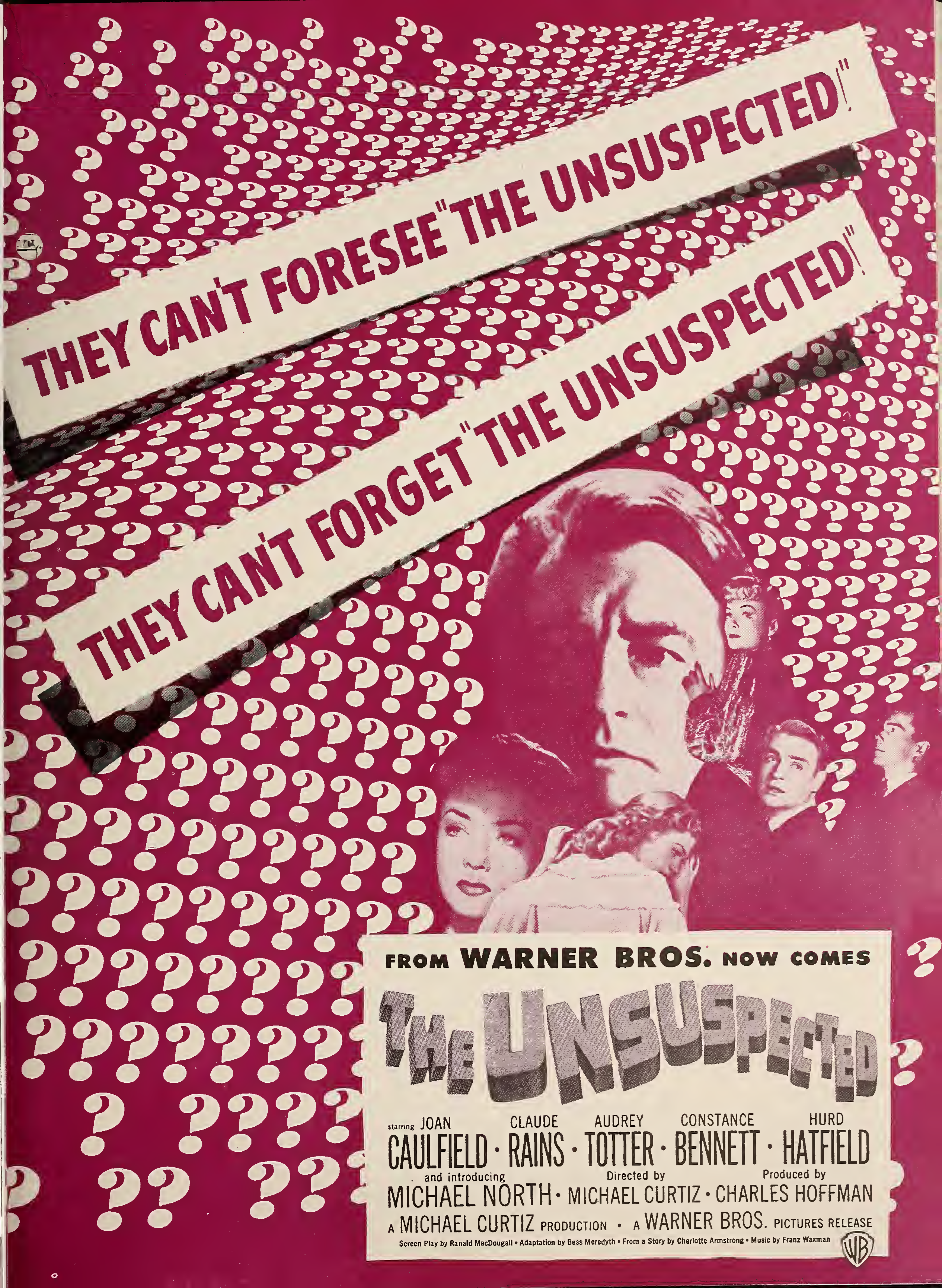

THEY CAN'T FORESEE "THE UNSUSPECTED!"
THEY CAN'T FORGET "THE UNSUSPECTED!"

FROM WARNER BROS. NOW COMES

THE UNSUSPECTED

starring JOAN CAULFIELD · CLAUDE RAINS · AUDREY TOTTER · CONSTANCE BENNETT · HURD HATFIELD

and introducing MICHAEL NORTH · Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ · Produced by CHARLES HOFFMAN

A MICHAEL CURTIZ PRODUCTION · A WARNER BROS. PICTURES RELEASE

Screen Play by Ranald MacDougall • Adaptation by Bess Meredyth • From a Story by Charlotte Armstrong • Music by Franz Waxman

WB

'IA' Local Abandons CSU Fight on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Laboratory workers' Local No. 683, IATSE, which struck in sympathy with the Conference of Studio Unions, and which has observed picket lines despite the revocation of its charter by 'IA' international officers, last night abandoned its resistance in return for withdrawal of a $50,000 suit filed against the local's officers and membership by Roy Brewer, 'IA' international representative. The 'IA' had formed a new local after revoking Local No. 683's charter.

The terms of the agreement require that the local's officers turn over the union records and provide a 60-day period in which members may pay lapsed dues as a preliminary to obtaining membership in the new local, which has been supplying laboratory workers.

Brewer said that no members of the new local will be displaced by members of the old local, but that the latter would be considered eligible for additional jobs as they materialize.

Musicians Seek Meet On Standby Clause

Local No. 802, American Federation of Musicians, has asked for a meeting with representatives of the Capitol, Paramount and Strand theatres, to discuss the question of its standby contract clauses under the Taft-Hartley law, Richard McCann, president of the local, said here yesterday.

The local contends that the current contract, which runs until next Labor Day, should be honored as far as its standby clauses are concerned. The Taft-Hartley law forbids certain union practices generally listed as "featherbedding," but there has been no definite legal ruling as to whether standby procedure is banned. McCann refused to state whether the standby procedure has been breached, and added: "We think a friendly chat would be helpful."

Negotiations Still On In Operators' Dispute

Negotiations were again in progress late last night between Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, and circuit representatives in efforts to end the stalemate existing between projectionists' Local 306 and the RKO, Loew, Warner and Paramount theatres. Walsh, who is scheduled to leave today for San Francisco, was authorized on Monday night by the local's negotiating committee to attempt a settlement.

Should no agreement be reached through Walsh, it was expected that the local would again resume its membership meeting at which a strike vote would be taken. The original membership strike meeting was suspended, subject to call.

450 'Amber' Prints

Technicolor is rushing to completion this week, 450 prints of 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" for the mass opening of the picture throughout the country starting Oct. 22. This is the greatest number of prints ever made available on one of the company's pictures, the home office stated yesterday.

Review

"Spirit of West Point"

(Film Classics)

FILM CLASSICS makes its producing debut with a picture that has much commercial promise. The names of those two "greats" of football, Felix (Doc) Blanchard and Glenn Davis, should make very persuasive marquee reading in association with the film's title. Is there anyone to whom autumn and football are synonymous who hasn't heard of those two Army football gladiators? Their gridiron careers ended officially only a short while ago, and now, with the opening of the 1947 football season Film Classics introduces their story to the screen. An auspicious time, indeed.

This production of John W. Rogers and Harry Joe Brown has a pronounced documentary flavor, being replete with newsreel shots of important games in which the two stars played, with sportscasters Bill Stern and Harry Wismer on hand describing the action. It is heavily stacked with players who assist the boys in sketching out their family lives, their school and social activities at West Point, and emotional problems. They include football star Tom Harmon; Robert Shayne, as Army football coach Red Blaik; Anne Nagel, as Blaik's wife, and Alan Hale, Jr., Tanis Chandler, Margaret Wells, Franklin Parker, Michael Brown, Ruth Allen and Joyce Stewart. But—and hold everything!—also appearing in the picture is M. A. Lightman, Sr., of Memphis, president of Malco Theatres, one-time president of the old Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, champion bridge player, and now rating the appellation "actor." Conducting himself very well, indeed, as the film's assistant football coach, Lightman can take a bow.

As actors, Blanchard and Davis are magnificent football players. They are rather self-conscious before the camera. Shayne's performance is the best by far in a pivotal role, while the rest of the cast of professional actors perform only moderately well under uninspired direction by Ralph Murphy. Tom Reed wrote the screenplay, from original material written by Mary Howard. The script is compensated for immeasurably by the thrilling newsreel shots of the games, and it is a safe bet that those who go to see the film will be more interested in seeing the two "greats" in action again.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

SOPEG Meets Tonight For New Decision

As a result of company representatives' rejection of a 30 per cent wage increase request made by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, SOPEG will hold a membership meeting tonight at the Hotel Diplomat here to consider its next move.

Originally, the union had contemplated holding an executive board meeting tonight, but decided to hold the membership session after sounding out sentiment in the home offices. SOPEG had asked for the 30 per cent increase for 2,500 home office employes. On Tuesday, the companies said they would only extend the wage clause of the present contract for one year.

SAG Hits Censor's Ban on Roach Film

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—The Screen Actors Guild board has voted unanimously to adopt a resolution deploring as "un-American" action by the Memphis censor board board in banning Hal Roach's "Curley." The film was banned, according to the censor board, because, contrary to the practices in the South, it depicted a Negro boy playing with white children.

"As actors and American citizens," the resolution declared in part, "we protest such intolerance and prejudice."

NBC Engineers Meet

Engineers of National Broadcasting's out-of-town offices are meeting here this week with O. B. Hanson, NBC vice-president and chief engineer, and other representatives of the engineering department. The meetings, held annually, are for the purpose of discussing administrative and operational problems as well as new equipment design and developments for video, FM and sound broadcasting.

Ascap, Price Rises To Solons Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—The so-called "road show prices" situation and the Ascap demand for a 300 per cent increase in theatre license fees will be laid tomorrow before a joint Congressional sub-committee considering the high cost of living.

Sidney E. Samuelson, of the Eastern Pennsylvania unit of Allied States, will appear before the sub-committee which has been conducting three days of hearings in Philadelphia. The two points which Samuelson will emphasize are those which Allied has been hammering recently. Samuelson is expected to point out that increased fees to Ascap might result in higher admission prices at theatres. He will point out, it is understood, that the advanced prices charged for some pictures force up the cost of the consumer's chief entertainment.

Chicago Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

their insistence that the levy would discriminate against a single business. They said they would accept the tax if other businesses were subjected to a similar one. Any increase, they also pointed out, would have to be passed on to the public inasmuch as increased operating costs and general business conditions would not permit theatres to absorb it.

The committee replied that the measure was the city's last resort after the state refused to share with it any revenue from the sales tax. The state, the committee added, singled out the amusement industry as a revenue-raising source.

Morris Leonard, Balaban and Katz attorney, proposed that the committee and the amusement industry band together in an attempt to get Gov. Green to call a special session in Springfield to review the allocation of sales tax revenue. In reply to a committee question, the amusement representatives indicated they would "exercise all ethical efforts," possibly including use of the screen, to bring the issue before the public.

No action was taken by the committee today, but it said it would take the tax proposal under advisement before the council meet on Oct. 15.

Arnold Presents Gift To President Truman

Washington, Oct. 1. — Edward Arnold presented President Truman yesterday with a leather portfolio containing pictures of all of the presidents and copies of their signatures.

Wanger-Eagle Lion Deal Is Finalized

The deal whereby Walter Wanger will become an independent producer for Eagle Lion, giving him an interest in Pathe Industries, E-L's parent, has been finalized, it was announced here yesterday by Robert R. Young, controlling stockholder of Pathe Industries.

The contract, which has been in negotiation for several months, will go into effect on the completion of "Joan of Lorraine," in the production of which Wanger is associated with Ingrid Bergman and director Victor Fleming.

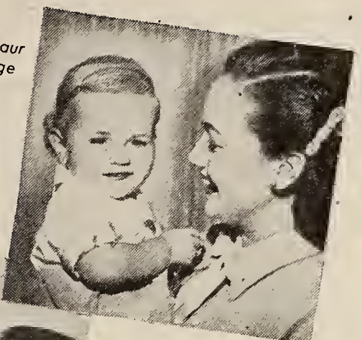
Under terms of the agreement, not only does Wanger acquire a substantial interest in the stock of Pathe Industries, but Pathe, in turn, will receive an important financial interest in Walter Wanger Pictures, Inc. At the same time, Eagle Lion will also share with Wanger his contracts with stars Joan Bennett, Susan Havward and others.

Wanger will produce a minimum of four top-budget pictures annually for Eagle Lion distribution in this country and in Latin-America, and throughout the rest of the world by the J. Arthur Rank Organization, with which Eagle Lion is affiliated. Wanger Pictures will remain as a separate production unit with Wanger in charge, and Wanger and David Tannenbaum, vice-president of Wanger Pictures, will join the Eagle Lion board of directors.

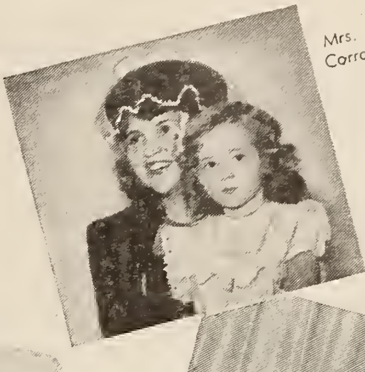
The status of Bryan Foy, E-L vice-president in charge of production, will in no way be affected, it was pointed out by Arthur B. Krim, president of E-L, who explained that Foy will continue to head Eagle Lion production. The contract was negotiated by Krim, representing Eagle Lion, and by Robert W. Purcell, board chairman of Pathe Industries. Robert S. Benjamin represented the Rank Organization, of which he is president, as well as Pathe Industries, of which he is general counsel, and Tannenbaum acted for Wanger in concluding the agreement.

Olive Borden Dies

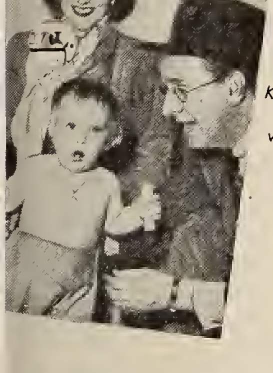
HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Olive Borden, 40, silent screen star, died today at Sunshine Mission following a long illness. The funeral will be held Saturday, with interment at Forest Lawn. Her mother survives.



Darothy Lamaur and san Ridge

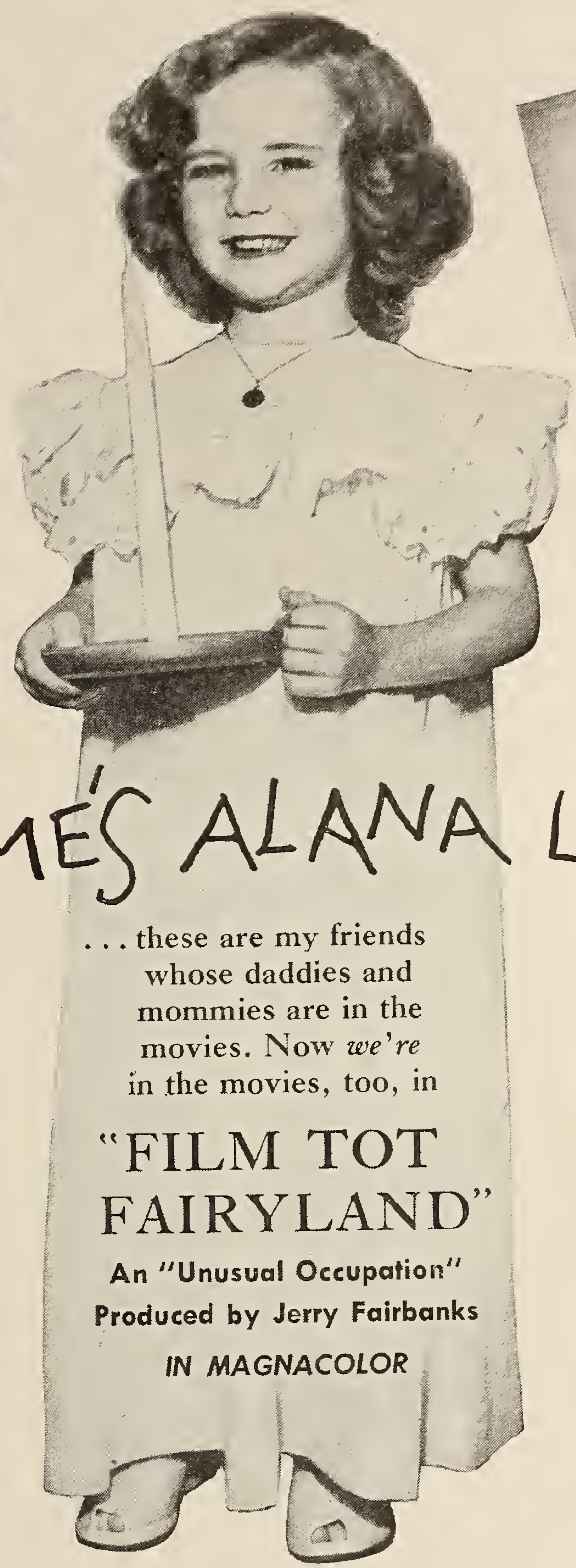


Mrs. Alan Ladd (Sue Carrall) with daughter Alana



Kay Kyser and Mrs. Kyser (Georgia Carrall) with Daughter Kimberley

Gail Patrick with children af Ranald Reagan and Jane Wyman



MY NAME'S ALANA LADD

... these are my friends whose daddies and mommies are in the movies. Now *we're* in the movies, too, in

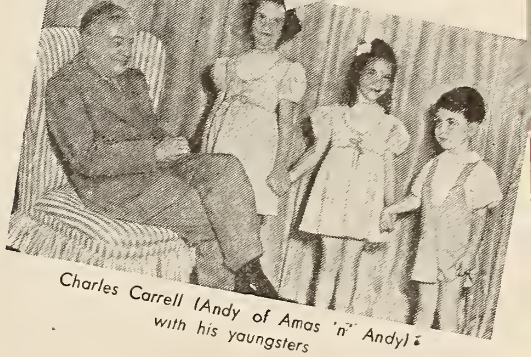
"FILM TOT FAIRYLAND"

An "Unusual Occupation"
Produced by Jerry Fairbanks
IN MAGNACOLOR

Kay Aldrich and daughter Melissa

ndy, daughter Edgar Bergen

Brenda Jayce shaws daughter Pamela haw ta madel



Charles Carrell (Andy of Amas 'n' Andy) with his yaungsters

Nancy Coleman and her twin girls

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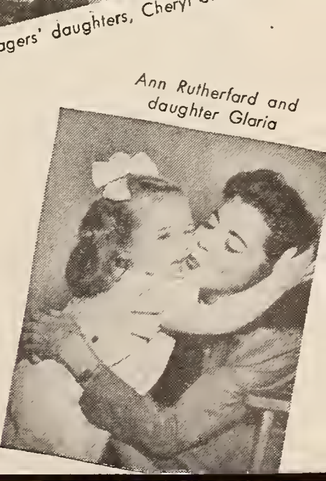
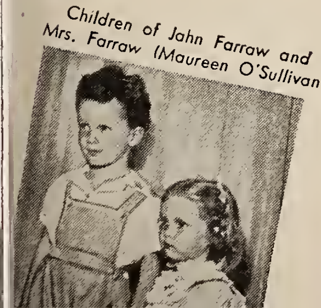
Paramount Shorts

because nothing like it was ever filmed before. 20 children of Hollywood stars and 10 famous parents all together in one of the most novel shorts in years. No picture ever packed into such brief footage so much appeal for everybody who loves kids or movies—or both. Make this *a "must" for best playing time.*

Ray Ragers' daughters, Cheryl and Linda



Ann Rutherfard and daughter Glaria



Children of Jahn Farraw and Mrs. Farraw (Maureen O'Sullivan)

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946,

Of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, published daily (except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays), at New York, New York, for October 1, 1947.

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss.:

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Theo. J. Sullivan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semi-weekly, or tri-weekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, and Editor-in-Chief, Martin Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Managing Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Business Manager, Theo. J. Sullivan, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

2. That the owner is: (if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.): Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin J. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Gertrude S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiants' full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest, direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 5,081. (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly and tri-weekly newspapers only).

THEO. J. SULLIVAN,
Business Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of September, 1947.

(SEAL) ROSE W. HORNSTEIN.
(My commission expires March 30, 1949).

'49th State' Preview

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—The Hawaiian Statehood Committee is sponsoring a preview of "The 49th State," latest in RKO Pathe's "This Is America" series, to be held in the Mayflower Hotel, here, on Tuesday. The affair, to be attended by cabinet members, Congressmen, diplomats and Capitol journalists, will be followed by a reception at which there will be talks by Julius A. Krug, Secretary of the Interior and Phil Reisman, Jr., writer-supervisor of the film.

KMTA Joins TOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

that local regular prices are not considered and that the public is resentful of advances on superior pictures when no reductions are made on inferior ones. The resolution recommended that "on rare occasions" when warranted the raised prices be scaled in proportion to regular prices.

Rhoden, who heads Fox-Midwest, and who served as chairman of the Ascap committee at the recent Theatre Owners of America convention in Washington, today briefed the convention on the Ascap situation in light of postponement until next February of Ascap's increased theatre music license rates.

Rejects Bar on Roadshows

O. F. Sullivan of Wichita was the principal agitator for a resolution to compel non-booking of advanced admission price films during a discussion of the problem. Strowig rejected the proposal on the grounds that members should decide individually. However, the convention went on record that advances of 300 per cent in small houses were out of reason.

Over 375 attended the convention's final banquet this evening at the Phillips Hotel.

Sam Shain, 20th-Fox exhibitor relations head, advised closer personal relations between exhibitor and distributor for a better knowledge of mutual values and conditions. Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio exhibitor relations director, stressed the use of advertising to reach rural prospects.

At the morning session, Woody Latimer, popcorn broker, predicted there will be an acute shortage of that commodity and a sharp price rise within 60 or 90 days and urged the association to make popcorn commitments now in order to insure a supply. Larry Larson, Webb City, Mo., theatre owner, said an assured popcorn supply meant he could stay in business.

The Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association is studying ways to improve the relationship of the industry with the public. The practice of employing local checkers was called a dangerous one from the standpoint of public goodwill, with reports possibly spreading through a town fomenting discussion of high picture costs and earnings, and reputed large profits of exhibitors. Advanced price pictures also tend to engender ill will, one speaker said, especially in smaller communities.

Complaints on Checkers Rise

Types of checkers sent to smaller towns have improved considerably in the past few months, said Elmer Bills, vice-president of the association, but complaints against the use of local checkers are increasing. Distributors do not understand small-town conditions, he said, where everybody knows everybody else. Checking is usually done on bigger pictures and any gossip spread bases impressions of local theatre grosses and earnings of an inflated nature. The cost of mileage for sending in outside checkers is inconsiderable, he said, against the harm believed done by the use of local checkers.

J. H. Becker of Independence, Mo., regional trustee of the Motion Picture Foundation, explained its functions and status, using it as an illustration of the improvement of relationships between distributors and exhibitors for day-by-day dealings resulting from meeting together and working for a common cause. He suggested that such occasions be made more readily available so that distributors and exhibitors might become personally acquainted and discover common ideals.

Thirty years ago distrust and suspicion were common in the industry, he said, but there is far more confidence felt now, the improvement being largely due to the number of, and occasions for, contacts.

He urged that exhibitors lean over backward to keep exact and complete records so that when results of a picture are shown to the company distributing it the record of gain or loss can be accepted. When this is done adjustments, if necessary, may usually be expected. Every exhibitor who tries to be honest and fair in making new contracts and in other distributor relations is helping to raise the credit of exhibition and improve distributor-exhibitor relationships generally, he added.

Wm. Clark Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

agement details in association with his brother, James P. Clark, National Film Carriers' president, while the NFS was being set up. The Clarks operate Highway Express Lines of Philadelphia with branches also in New York, Albany, Buffalo, Chicago and Salt Lake City.

Stockholders of NFC, meanwhile, reelected James P. Clark and all other officers, with the exception of Harold C. Robinson of Chicago who was replaced by Gladys Pike of Detroit as a board member of managers. Other NFC officers are: Thomas W. Gilboy, vice-president, and Clint Weyer, secretary. Executive committee consists of George F. Callahan, James Clark, E. E. Jameson, C. W. Trampe and John Vickers. Other managers are: A. C. Amsler, L. D. V. Benton, M. H. Brandon, Edward Hunter, J. W. Jack, S. J. Marshall, H. E. McKinney, M. G. Rogers, W. A. Slater and F. E. Smith. Harold S. Shertz is general counsel, and Ben Koenig is associate counsel.

At the convention formal setting up of NFS nationwide service was completed for the physical handling of product of independent producers. Service is now established at all 32 exchange centers. There were 21 firms operating prior to organization of the distribution service on a national scale, and now the 11 additions also have facilities.

Theatre Reports

(*Continued from page* 1)

added that as part of the dissolution of pooled interests it had had with Skouras Theatres and which was reported last July, the company has taken full ownership of the Olympia and Skouras acquired full title to the Stoddard, both in Manhattan. Prior to the termination, each circuit had a 50 per cent interest in each of the two houses.

Set "Body" Premiere

"Body and Soul," Enterprise-United Artists production, will have its world premiere around Nov. 1 at the Globe Theatre here, UA announces here. Starring John Garfield and Lilli Palmer, it is the third Enterprise film.

Para. Has 50 Millions

(*Continued from page* 1)

actions with theatre partners. Stock purchases will be continued.

Paramount, according to present plans, will launch the theatre-acquisition program if and when the high court affirms the New York Federal Court's ruling which outlaws theatre holdings of between five and 95 per cent. Present indications are that the upper court will ultimately dispose of the case this winter, probably in February or March. Paramount has interests of between five and 95 per cent in 1,047 houses, according to court records and it has been established that the company wants to bring these interests up to the 95 per cent level for the most part, rather than to sell them.

It is not considered unlikely, however, that there would be some numerical splits, that is, a Paramount partner taking, say, 15 theatres of a 30-theatre circuit with Paramount acquiring full ownership of the remaining 15.

The loan and credit are listed as "for general corporate purposes" and, as one company executive stated yesterday, "some of the dollars probably will find their way into production."

Three banks established the fund with the First National Bank of Chicago making available $10,000,000, of which $2,000,000 has been drawn; Manufacturers Trust ready with $8,000,00 of which $1,600,000 has been taken, and Bankers Trust making available $7,000,000 from which $1,400,000 has been drawn.

Tilted-Price Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

films, and that there is no room for more than three per year.

Fred Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of Century Circuit, yesterday branded the trend as "vicious" and "leading to destruction." Whether Century will book them depends on public reaction at the outset, he said, adding that it is not unlikely that pictures of questionable merit will be placed on the list for advanced price handling.

Fabian Theatres has already called a halt to booking advanced-admission product at its Class A houses.

A TOA committee, yet to be appointed, will insist at a meeting with film company presidents that only pictures of the highest caliber be earmarked for the special price treatment and that they be spaced about four months apart.

Continued Bank Aid

(*Continued from page* 1)

tudes reportedly followed submission of UA's financial statement.

It is believed, however, that the banks will limit financing to less than the former percentage of budgets and will exercise closer inspection of proposed films with regard to box office potential.

Meanwhile, Sears, vice-president Arthur W. Kelly, George Bagnall and other UA executives today screened two more RKO pictures with a view to purchase. Six now have been viewed, two in New York and four here, but UA spokesmen deny that the number to be acquired has been set as yet. UA owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin have approved the idea of buying outside product.

CEA Leaders

(*Continued from page 1*)

either the British or American industries in more than a month to bring an end to the stalemate.

It is known, however, that Fuller carries with him practical suggestions for a compromise which, it is hoped, will constitute the basis for higher-level talks which may lead to a solution of the tax problem.

The Board of Trade, official government arm, arranged travel facilities for the two and, while stating officially that Fuller and Davis do not represent the Board, gave their mission its full blessing unofficially.

The general feeling here is that the present stalemate is in danger of drifting into complete disaster, due largely to the unwillingness of either side to make an opening approach. Since the consequences are gravest and most immediate here, the CEA apparently decided it was up to it to make the first move.

Cripps Stand Unchanged

Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's new economic dictator, has maintained his position in the situation unchanged with the support of Cabinet ministers due to Britain's well known economic maladies. Although Prime Minister Attlee and Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the ministerial group supporting Cripps, have said several times that they are open to suggestions for alternatives to the film tax, they have not felt that it is proper for them to make the opening approaches to the MPA directly.

It is understood authoritatively that Americans here, including Ambassador Douglas, have made informal suggestions for a move by the government but the Cabinet has refused to budge.

By contrast, however, high officials have privately expressed the view that the Americans are waging a war of nerves as film supplies for British theatres diminish.

It is important to note that Fuller has frequently demonstrated that he is virtually the only trade personality here possessing a statesmanlike approach to high-level problems. For example, his drive and perspicacity were the sole reasons why the industry was able to avoid shipwreck during last winter's fuel shortage.

Fuller declined to reveal the line he and Davis will propose in their meeting with Johnston but he doubtless will convey the grim conclusions of the trade leaders' dinner conference here last night with Cripps.

Forbids Disclosure of Talks

The latter strictly forbade the disclosure of any facet of the occasion's proceedings saying publicity would deprive such gatherings of their usefulness.

However, it is learned unimpeachably that Fuller, supported by J. Arthur Rank, told Cripps that continuance of the tax inevitably will produce ruin in the industry here, first to exhibitors and subsequently to producers, and supplied trade figures to unanswerably establish his argument.

Cripps said the government did not want to ruin the industry but reiterated his position that by the end of the year Britain will have scarcely enough dollars to meet the country's food bill, let alone to purchase films. He repeatedly said that this position is well known to informed Americans, implying that the import duty is in no way designed to cripple Hollywood exports but is, rather, the only apparent course open to the government.

Nevertheless, Cripps conveyed the idea that he still would welcome 11th-hour proposals from Americans.

Fuller declined to disclose prematurely the proposals he will make to Johnston but it is obvious he will convey Cripps' view that the present emergency will continue for two years and, consequently, that it is desirable to the interests of both sides to carry on somehow for that period; first, by maintaining the American market here which would inevitably dissipate if the embargo continues, and, second, to prevent complete ruin of the British film industry.

It is speculated, with some foundation, that Fuller will propose that the Americans make some gesture to hard-hit Britain, possibly by a substantial reduction of film rental percentages with a well-guarded pledge that the savings will be passed on to the public and will not be retained by exhibitors.

Fuller's visit to the U. S. is expected to last a week or 10 days. He asks specifically to be excused from social activities during his stay as it is his hope and determination to devote all of his time to the forging of a solution to the tax problem which may be found acceptable by all concerned. He goes with the conviction of the whole industry here that he is the one man who possibly can save the situation now.

UK Boxoffice Drop

(*Continued from page 1*)

September, and that considerable improvement is expected.

Ostrer, who arrived here aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth,* attributed the drop to "a very hot summer and some very bad pictures." His inference was that some of the "very bad" pictures were American films, since he added that British pictures "are doing very well."

Ostrer declined to discuss the British *ad valorem* tax, beyond saying that "it is one of those political things, and the sooner it's settled, the better." He said he believed that it could only be settled as part of the world situation today, and that it is not a trade subject alone.

Gaumont-British Circuit "is better off than most," Ostrer continued, saying that it has enough product to last "until next June, without resorting to reissues." British production cannot turn out enough films either now or by next June to meet all needs, Ostrer added.

Ostrer said he is visiting this country to "see what Rank's pictures are doing here, and, of course, to view the likelihood of getting more dollars."

Ostrer sees little chance now of Gaumont-British being able to build more theatres, because of shortages, although he disclosed that G-B had purchased a number of sites.

Large-screen television will be tested in two London theatres by March, Ostrer said. He predicted that "we will certainly have it by the time of the Olympic Games," which are to be held next summer.

Ostrer will remain here for a few weeks, and then visit the Coast. He intends to start homeward on Nov. 26.

U. S. Eyes Colombia, Fearing Film Ban

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Government officials here are watching the situation in Colombia, South America, to determine whether it will affect the exhibition of U. S. films there. Due to the current row between the U. S. and Colombia over the new greater Colombian merchant fleet, there have been threats that Colombia would renounce her trade treaties with both the United States and Britain.

Belief here is that U. S. films might escape retaliation against other American goods because of the difficulty of obtaining enough films elsewhere. Colombia has no film industry of its own and could not get enough pictures from Argentina and Mexico.

Deals Set in Sweden, Near East: Broidy

New deals for distribution of Allied Artists and Monogram product have been arranged in Sweden and in the Near East, Steve Broidy, president of both companies, said yesterday upon his arrival here aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. Returning with Broidy was Norton V. Ritchey, head of the companies' foreign departments.

Broidy said he had renewed deals in France, Italy and Switzerland and that he had made a deal with Pathe in England.

Denmark Shipments

(*Continued from page 1*)

import licenses be cut by more than 50 per cent.

Whether the Danish action took place before or after the Motion Picture Export Association's rejection on Tuesday of Danish curbs which had been proposed, could not be ascertained at MPEA headquarters.

An MPEA spokesman said that the action in cutting U. S. film import licenses would be tantamount to reducing U. S. film revenues from Denmark by 50 per cent, and mathematically would corespond with the Danish proposals for certain allocations for each American company doing business in Denmark.

The Danish proposals which were rejected by the MPEA seek not only to impose limits on the withdrawal of profits from that country, but also seek to dictate the prices at which film distribution rights may be sold, and to establish maximum limits on the earning power of each film.

The MPEA spokesman said that until further information is forthcoming from Denmark, the next move would apparently be up to the Danish government.

Another question which might be placed on the agenda of such an MPEA meeting would be whether to place Denmark under MPEA jurisdiction. At present, Denmark is serviced by American film companies' own exchanges.

U. K. Film Grosses

(*Continued from page 1*)

achievement at any time, particularly in these difficult times." The refinancing, he adds, has put the Odeon group on a secure and permanent basis.

The British film leader said he was "particularly happy" over the record of steady progress which British film distribution is making in the U. S. and South America, with the result that the dollar income has been steadily increasing.

Beaverbrook Paper

(*Continued from page 1*)

Express does not name, that Americans will abandon their plans to produce large-scale pictures here and will concentrate on quota "quickies."

Questioned about the story, Treasury officials said the Exchange Act merely is a continuance of finance regulations operative until yesterday and the position is unaltered in any respect.

A canvass of American managing directors failed to disclose one who had talked to the *Daily Express*. Denying the story, they said they are continuing with plans for large-scale production here.

The *Daily Express* also stated the Exchange Act means that most American profits will be retained here. The Treasury states categorically that this is untrue; that all net profits still are remittable.

Lord Beaverbrook Arrives Aboard SS Queen Elizabeth

Lord Beaverbrook, British newspaper publisher, arrived here yesterday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. He refused to comment on the British tax and the criticisms of the American industry which his newspaper has published.

Accompanying him was Arthur Christiansen, editor of Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express*.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)		(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rev. 6/27/47)	(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)			(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D—65 min. (821)	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)			ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min. (651) (Rev. 9/8/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)	(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (701) (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 14			(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)			EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min. (Rev. 9/16/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens C—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)	DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min. (621)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)		(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 28		BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O LOVE FROM A STRANGER John Hodiak Sylvia Sydney D	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)		ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)			(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min.	RETURN OF THE LASH Al "Lash" La Rue Al St. John O		HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751)	(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER Chas. Starret Smiley Burnette O-55 min.	GUN LAW Al "Lash" La Rue O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)			THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev.10/20/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (Rev. 9/10/47)	(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Oct. 19	BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 min.	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine Mary Anderson Paul Lukas D	SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)			ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)		BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr David Farrar D—98 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Oct. 26	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D CHEYENNE TAKES OVER Al "Lash" La Rue O	(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39)	LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Nov. 2			DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (Rev. 9/26/47)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)		MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)		
Nov. 9											

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.*]

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTI E
DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK 18,
N. Y. (2 COPIES)

VOL. 62. NO. 67 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

Ascap Aims to Set Equitable Fee Formula

N.Y. Group to File 'Power Abuse' Charges Today

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will undertake to sound out exhibitor sentiment regarding increases in music licensing of theatres by private conversations in the field with regional theatre organization leaders, as well as by discussions with exhibitors here for the purpose of arriving at a new formula that would be equitable beyond any question.

It is understood that Herman Greenberg, Ascap's licensing chief, will take up the matter in the field personally and that he is planning to leave New York for a tour of "grass roots" areas shortly.

Ascap is operating under a consent decree which compels it to levy its music taxes in a non-discriminatory

(*Continued on page* 8)

Delay '306' Strike Until Walsh Returns

Any possible strike action by projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, here, will be held in abeyance for at least three weeks, it appeared last night following agreement by the local's negotiating committee to wait for the return of Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, from San Francisco. The operators have been deadlocked here with representatives of RKO, Loew, Warner and Paramount theatres.

Walsh left for the Coast last night, after conferring with both the circuit

(*Continued on page* 8)

Pittsburgh Set For New DeMille Film

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 2.—This city's Golden Triangle central business district was emblazoned with "Unconquered" banners as Cecil B. DeMille, producer of the Paramount picture, a group of the company's players and executives and a New York trade press and newspaper contingent arrived here today for a round of social events in advance of the world

(*Continued on page* 8)

Pathe in England To Co-produce With AA, Monogram

Steve Broidy

Boards of directors of Monogram-Allied Artists and British Pathe will soon weigh a proposal for a joint production - distribution arrangement which will benefit the British organization's dollar credit and the two American companies' pound credit, Steve Broidy, Monogram-AA president, said here yesterday following his return from an eight-week tour of Britain and the Continent.

The deal, Broidy said, is designed for the mutual sponsorship of production of four pictures in the U. S., and four in England. Profits which would result from world-wide distribution of

(*Continued on page* 6)

New MPEA Meet Seen on Denmark

An immediate meeting of the directors of the Motion Picture Export Association will be held if reports from Denmark to the effect that the Danish government has banned American films are correct, an MPEA spokesman said here yesterday.

The MPEA had already rejected stringent proposals by the Danish government under which limitations

(*Continued on page* 6)

Republic Reports Net of $233,022

A net profit of $233,022 after taxes was reported yesterday by Republic and its subsidiaries for the 13 weeks ended July 26.

The net profit before Federal normal and surtaxes of $168,740 was $401,762.20.

No Dollars, No Films: Cripps

LONDON, Oct. 2.—"Our American friends have got to remember that world trade is only possible by exchange," Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's new Minister for Economic Affairs, said here today at a luncheon-meeting of the Association of Specialized Film Producers. "One-way trade doesn't work," Cripps said, "unless the country supplying the goods also supplies the money wherewith to purchase the goods. We must tell our American friends regretfully: 'no dollars—no films'."

Cripps took the occasion to praise British documentarians for their wartime film work. He said he hoped forward-looking industrialists would privately sponsor documentaries that do not specifically advertise but which nevertheless project the sponsors' viewpoints. He is personally anxious, he said, to have well-produced British shorts displace American second features.

"I feel that in the draft of the new quota bill you will see fairly shortly you will be amply satisfied," he told the meeting. This was interpreted as a clear indication that the government proposes a high-cost clause in the forthcoming short subjects film quota.

Britain Has One Year's Supply of Product: King

British theatres could continue in operation only for about one year under the present ban on American film shipments to Britain, Sir Alexander King, Scottish exhibitor, disclosed here yesterday.

King's estimate included from six to nine months' product on hand, with reissues and new British product carrying theatres through the remainder of the 12 months. The British industry could produce possibly 45 pictures in a year, he added.

King declined to discuss the British

(*Continued on page* 6)

Expect Decision on UA, RKO Deal Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—United Artists' negotiations with RKO Radio for purchase of an unspecified number of RKO pictures appeared nearing completion tonight, following additional screenings for Gradwell L. Sears, UA president, and a meeting between executives of both companies this afternoon. Outcome of the decision may be made known tomorrow.

RKO president N. Peter Rathvon,

(*Continued on page* 6)

Film Market In France Is Collapsing

Nation Will Have No Dollars Nov. 1: Bidault

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Adding to the woes of American film operations abroad, sharp notice to the U. S. industry that it can soon expect real trouble in France came today when French Foreign Minister George Bidault conferred with President Truman on the grave economic situation faced by his nation because of the exhaustion of its dollar resources.

Bidault seeks a stop-gap aid program whereby the U. S. would lay out $120,000,000 monthly to purchase food, fuel and raw materials to keep French industry operating. France is one of the three countries which the Presi-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Buxton Sees UK Tax Dispute Settled

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Harry Buxton, one of England's leading independent exhibitors, today arrived in Hollywood on his first visit to the United States, and declared that he is confident "some equitable arrangement of the (*ad valorem*) film tax dispute between England and America will be worked out.

"Moviegoing is a greater habit in England than it is in America," said Buxton, who owns 23 theatres in Manchester and Liverpool. "The English like American pictures. They

(*Continued on page* 6)

We Don't Need UK Market: Sherman

Producer Harry Sherman, who recently completed his 157th feature, thinks it is absurd for the U. S. industry to be "frightened" about the current British *ad valorem* tax deadlock.

In New York from the Coast for product conferences with Enterprise

(*Continued on page* 6)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are reported on page 8.

Personal Mention

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, returned to Pittsburgh yesterday from New York.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec, and A. A. WARD, vice-president, have returned to the Coast from Washington, while H. M. BESSEY, vice-president, is back in New York from Washington.

•

BERT GOLDBERG and JOHNNY GLUSKIN, Herald Pictures executives, flew to Chicago from New York yesterday to attend the Screen Guild convention there today and tomorrow.

•

JOHN GRIEF, Altec Service mechanical inspector, and MRS. GRIEF are celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, head of Monogram Southern exchanges, will be in Shreveport, La., on Tuesday from Atlanta.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is due back in New York today from Kansas City.

•

CHET BELL, Paramount branch manager in Denver, is in Mayo Hospital, Rochester, Minn., where he will undergo an operation.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, will return here Monday from the West.

•

ARTHUR FREED, M-G-M producer, will leave here tomorrow by plane for the Coast.

•

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ of M-G-M's Detroit office, will return to that city from New York over the weekend.

•

RALPH PECKHAM, Film Classics branch manager in Atlanta, is in New York.

•

WALTER TITUS, Republic Southern district manager, has returned here from Atlanta.

•

KEN WHITMORE has joined the Warner studio publicity staff.

Shrine Dedication

Dedication of a shrine to St. Genesius, Roman Catholic patron saint of actors, will be a feature of the 100th anniversary, tomorrow, of the foundation of the Franciscan Fathers at St. Francis College, Loretto, Penn., at which Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, will preside. The shrine is adjacent to the site for a national retreat and rest home for Catholic actors, on the former estate and home of the late Charles M. Schwab. The cornerstone for the shrine will be laid by Pat O'Brien, president of the Genesians, the organization of actors and actresses formed to honor St. Genesius.

Legion Classifies 19 Additional Pictures

Nineteen additional pictures have been reviewed by the National Legion of Decency, eight of which have been placed in Class A-I, seven in Class A-II, and four in Class B.

Class A-I: "Bowery Buckaroos," "King of the Bandits," "Louisiana," "Ridin' Down the Trail" and "Robin Hood of Monterey," all Monogram; "Exposed" and "Marshal of Cripple Creek," both Republic, and "Schoolgirl Diary" (Italian), Manenti Films. Class A-II: "Dick Tracy Meets Gruesome" and "Out of the Past," both RKO Radio; "The Foxes of Harrow," 20th Century-Fox; "Hal Roach Comedy Carnival," United Artists; "Lone Wolf in London" and "When a Girl's Beautiful," both Columbia, and "Ride the Pink Horse," Universal-International. Class B: "Farewell, My Beautiful Naples" (Italian), Saturnia Films; "Golden Earrings," Paramount, and "L'Atlante" (French) and "Zero de Conduite" (French), both Cine Classics.

Chicago Censor Bans Two Productions

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—The Censor Board here viewed 87 pictures during September, and in addition to making 31 cuts, banned two from local showing while placing an "Adults Only" tag on seven.

Banned were Universal-International's "Black Narcissus" and Eagle-Lion's "Railroaded." "Black Narcissus" was banned, according to Police Captain Timothy Lyne, on moral grounds. Classified "Adults Only" were: "Bury Me Dead," Eagle-Lion; "The Gangster," Monogram; "Children of Paradise," Teitel; "In the Twilight," Clasa, and "Mother Inez," "Voice of Spring," and "Five Advisers of Satan," Azteca.

New Hampshire Town Bans 'The Outlaw'

MANCHESTER, N. H., Oct. 2. — The Howard Hughes' production, "The Outlaw," has been banned here by members of the Manchester aldermanic license committee. The clerk of the committee, Michael J. Quinn, said that to his knowledge it was the first time in at least 15 years a motion picture had been banned outright in this city.

Studio Press Card System Discarded

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—The press credential card system for identifying accredited correspondents, in effect almost from the inception of the "Hays Office," went into discard today by a vote of the Studio Publicity Directors Committee. In substituting for the old setup a list of active press representatives which will be furnished to all studios, the committee explained that the measure was taken "to give better service to the active Hollywood press."

In addition to representing "some economy," it is reported to involve greater efficiency and elimination of occasional misuse of credentials

St. Louis Amusement Tax Is Introduced

St. Louis, Oct. 2.—A five per cent city tax on all amusements will be introduced in a Board of Aldermen meeting tomorrow with companion bills for new hotel room, cigarette and liquor levies. The amusement tax is scheduled to yield $750,000 annually.

Edward Arthur of Fanchon & Marco, said exhibitors realize the city's need for revenue but will object to being "singled out" for the proposed tax.

Philon to File New Suit Against Majors

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—Louis B. Philon, operator of the Liberty Theatre in Michigan City, Indiana, is retaining counsel to file a new anti-trust suit against the Dune Lake Corp., Paramount, Warner, Universal and the Manta Rose Circuit, charging a conspiracy to deprive him of first-run pictures.

A similar suit was settled out of court last year when it was agreed to dismiss without prejudice if damages were paid and the Liberty given first-runs. According to Philon he is not getting the product promised.

Court Upholds Ruling On Theatre's Funds

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—District Court Judge William Campbell today sustained a report by Master-in-Chancery E. Elward holding that Oriental Theatre Corp. must pay back $12,000 to the 32 West Randolph St. Corp., former operators of the Oriental, and an additional $48,000 to the Doubley Corp. and several individuals. The suit concerned $60,000 disbursed without court authority.

Hearing costs of $6,870 are to be borne by the 32 West Randolph Corp.

Masterpiece Deal For UA Reissues

Masterpiece Productions has acquired from Herman Greenfeld distribution rights for the United States and Canada to 39 United Artists reissues, according to Jules Weill, president of Masterpiece.

The first dual release of the group will be "Sundown" and "Stand-In." The 39 includes 26 from 1936-37 to 1943-44, and 13 Hop-A-Long Cassidy Westerns.

Screen Italian Film

A cocktail party and press screening of the Italian-made "Furia" will be held at the Monte Carlo here on Tuesday, Noel Meadow Associates announces. The film stars Rossano Brazzi, now under contract to David Selznick.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

3rd MONTH ON B'WAY!
DORE SCHARY presents
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BETTY HUTTON
'The PERILS of PAULINE'
IN PERSON
MYRON COHEN
Special!
BEVERLY TYLER
Extra!
HAL LEROY
Plus OTHERS

LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
IN HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Desert Fury"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
in Person
"MR TEMPO"
DESI ARNAZ
And His Orchestra
DULCINA
RUDY CARDENAS
THE 3 NONCHALANTS
Extra MARION HUTTON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
HENRY FONDA · BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE · ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT
A HAKIM-LITVAK Production
RELEASED BY RKO RADIO

"Will do your heart good."—Hale, News
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

The Foxes of Harrow
Starring
REX HARRISON · MAUREEN O'HARA
20th CENTURY-FOX
ON STAGE!
in Person!
MILTON BERLE
and Others!
ROXY
7th Ave. & 50th St.

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THE GROSSES GROW GREATER AT 20th CENTURY-FOX

The Foxes of Harrow

1st week at the Roxy, N. Y. topped

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS

Color by TECHNICOLOR

which danced rings around the records of 20th's greatest Technicolor triumphs and topped

I wonder who's kissing her now

Color by TECHNICOLOR

M. P. Herald Boxoffice Champion for July and August, which topped

Miracle on 34th Street

M. P. Herald Boxoffice Champion for June and Winner of Boxoffice Magazine Blue Ribbon Award!

YOU'RE ALWAYS ON **TOP** WITH 20th CENTURY-FOX!

One for all....
and all in one!

Seymour Nebenzal presents

ROBERT CUMMINGS · BRIAN DONLEVY in

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS

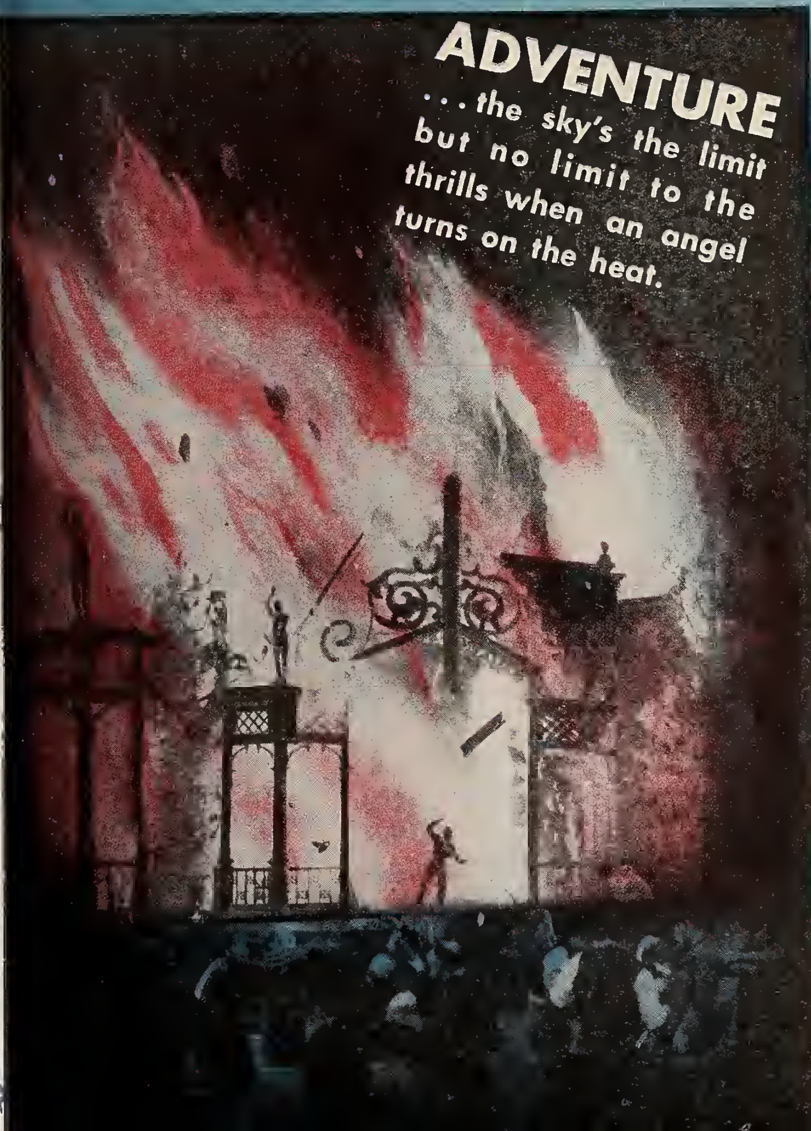
with MARJORIE REYNOLDS and Bill Goodwin · Edgar Kennedy · Stuart Erwin · John Litel and JORJA CURTRIGHT

Screenplay by Art Arthur and Rowland Leigh · Produced by SEYMOUR NEBENZAL · Directed by ALBERT S. ROGELL

heaven sent from UA

DRAMA
that wonderful, powerful, out-of-this-world kind!... the wonder of heaven on earth!

COMEDY
... filled with fun, the down-to-earth story of an angel who made good... and how!


ADVENTURE
... the sky's the limit but no limit to the thrills when an angel turns on the heat.

ROMANCE
it beats the devil the things some angels will do for love!

Don't Need UK

(*Continued from page* 1)

and United Artists officials, Sherman said yesterday that a good American film cannot help but make "a handsome profit" in the domestic market. Hence, the British market is not necessary—although it is good for "extra gravy," of course, but by no means is it vital to American producers, in Sherman's opinion.

The Enterprise producer said that not one of the pictures he has made since he started producing in 1917 has failed to realize "a handsome profit" in the U. S. alone. Give the film-going public what it wants in entertainment, and dispense with the theory that the average film-goer's intelligence is that of a 12-year-old, and one will find that a picture will bring gratifying grosses here, he contends.

No. 157 for Sherman is tentatively titled "New Mexico," a Western which he believes will set a new vogue for that type of film fare. It stars Joel McCrea, Frances Dee and Charles Bickford, and has "no gun-fighting and no 'heavy'." It will be released shortly, "probably by UA."

Next on Sherman's producing agenda will be the Bret Harte story, "Tennessee's Partner," to be followed by "Carmen of the West," in color, and "Ring Horse." He will remain in New York for another week before returning to the Coast.

UA, RKO

(*Continued from page* 1)

who was slated to fly to Mexico City tomorrow, and UA vice-president Arthur Kelly, who was to have gone to San Francisco tonight to confer with circuit operator Joe Blumenfeld on possible theatre acquisitions, postponed their trips in order to continue discussions of the picture deal.

WE Systems to Newsreel

Two portable newsreel sound recording systems have been delivered to Paramount News by the Electrical Research Products division of Western Electric. The systems are equipped with Mitchell and Wall cameras and are among the first of this type to be made on the East Coast.

Discuss Sunday Hours

HARTFORD, Oct. 2. — The possibility of extending local Sunday theatre operating hours will be discussed at an October meeting of the City Council.

Sets Films 'Yardstick'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2. — A plan for certifying circulation of sponsored films and film slides has been launched by Al Sherman, Washington film consultant.

Mrs. Courtenay Dies

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—The mother of Dirk Courtenay, representative here of MOTION PICTURE DAILY and Quigley Publications, died here this morning of a heart attack.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
Motion Picture Studio For Sale
Complete studio facilities for 35mm. and 16mm. motion pictures. Cameras, lights, carpentry shop, dolly, etc. Generous lease.
BOX 393, MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 6th Avenue, New York 20, N. Y.

Pathe, Allied-Mono.

(*Continued from page* 1)

the British films would be shared by Pathe and Monogram-AA 50-50, in pounds, and the profits from world-wide distribution of the American pictures would be shared 50-50 in dollars, he explained. Hence, he said, "whatever dollars the British pictures earn in America will result in dollar credit for the British company, while whatever pounds the American pictures earn in Britain will go to a pound credit in Britain."

Not Tied to UK Tax

Broidy emphasized that the deal, which he feels certain the Monogram-AA board will approve, was not conceived as a result of the current British *ad valorem* tax impasse, but rather had taken shape as an idea last April. It is a product of a "meeting of minds" between himself, Monogram-International president Norton V. Ritchey, and William Moffat, managing director of Pathe, Broidy said.

Under the arrangement, Broidy said, Monogram will "undertake to distribute Pathe pictures other than those made in conjunction with Monogram in all markets where Monogram has exchanges or agents."

He added: "There are certain Monogram franchise arrangements in foreign countries that preclude any other product except that of Monogram and Allied Artists. Pathe—if we can make a mutually favorable distribution deal—will have the bars lifted for it by our franchise owners, thereby permitting our franchise holders in those markets to distribute Pathe pictures—assuming that Pathe desires outlets for its product." The saving in distribution costs to both companies, Broidy said, "is self-evident." All operating costs, under the deal, "will be shared by the American and British organizations on a *pro rata* basis."

Pathe to Provide Studio

Pathe, he said, will provide all necessary studio space in Britain. This is a "highly important advantage for Monogram," Broidy added, saying he believes American producers will begin to "rush" for studio space in England.

Recently Pathe, of which Associated British Cinemas, Ltd., is a subsidiary, and Monogram, extended their franchise arrangement for a total of eight more years. Under it, ABC's 450 English theatres are open to Monogram and Allied Artists product. While abroad with Broidy, Ritchey secured franchise extensions in Sweden, Switzerland, Italy and France. Co-production by Pathe and Monogram in Italy is expected to result if the pending deal goes through, Broidy said.

The Motion Picture Export Association is "doing a good job," Broidy said, adding that his company decided to join it "because unless there is a united industry effort in the solving of problems abroad the problems will not be solved." While there are temporary advantages in operating independently, he added, such operation is not far-sighted.

Buxton on UK Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

want entertainment and they are entertained by American films. They'll want pictures from Hollywood."

Accompanied by Mrs. Buxton, the English exhibitor will remain in Hollywood for a week before departing for New York.

UK Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

ad valorem tax, saying: "The matter is now on a high governmental level between the British and American governments. Formulas are no good if they are not acceptable to both the British government and to U. S. producers.

"All British exhibitors are absolutely opposed to the tax," Sir Alexander emphasized. "We really hope that the U. S. industry realizes Britain's needs are great. I'm hopeful that a solution can be reached."

Sir Alexander said that he believed that the tax would never have been introduced "if the British government had not thought it necessary," but he felt that the government should have consulted the industry first.

Discussing British pictures, Sir Alexander said: "In Britain, British pictures are drawing as much money as American films, but I would not say that this is true in Scotland. I would like to see British films shown throughout the world, and bring in good income, and I have no financial interest in British production."

Sir Alexander, who controls 90 theatres, said that this is his first visit to this country. He intends to study theatre operation and the sale of confectionery by theatres. He will leave here for the Coast on Oct. 14, and plans to remain in the country until Nov. 26.

Sir Alexander King Guest at Luncheon Given by Paramount

Sir Alexander King was guest at a private luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Astor here, given by Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and George Weltner, president of Paramount International. Other Paramount executives present included Adolph Zukor, Y. Frank Freeman, Leonard H. Goldenson and Russell Holman.

French Market

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent has declared must receive interim assistance to prevent a collapse before spring.

Bidault told newsmen France will have no dollars after Nov. 1 to buy essentials.

Obviously, if the country does not have money for food and fuel, it will not permit the export of dollars to pay for rentals of American motion pictures. Actually, the French have not let go of film remittances since mid-summer. What appears probable now is a formal policy which may end the entire Byrnes-Blum film accord, putting Hollywood in as a bad a position in France as it is in Britain.

B'way's Lights to Trial

United Artists attorney Ernest Mahler yesterday waived examination before mid-Manhattan Police Court magistrate Charles F. Murphy in the case involving complaints brought by nearby residents against the UA Broadway Theatre's all-night blinking electric sign, and the case now will go to trial in the Special Sessions Court. The Broadway is playing "The Outlaw" on a 'round-the-clock schedule. Case is expected to be tried in about 10 days.

Reed Addresses Forum

John Reed King, of radio and television, will be guest lecturer before the weekly forum at the Televison Workshop here today.

Private Distribution Returns in Germany

LONDON, Oct. 2.—In accordance with the agreement of British and American authorities, distribution of films in Germany will be removed tomorrow from the Control Commission's jurisdiction, and will revert to commercial operation.

Twenty German distributors have been licensed. J. Arthur R[illegible] Eagle Lion Distributors, Ltd., [illegible] been licensed to distribute British films in the British zone and in the British Berlin sector. Soon, their activities will spread to the American zone. Conversely, the Motion Picture Export Association is operating in the British zone.

Former Control Commission officers will take executive posts in the new setup, with approved German personnel in lesser posts. Thus, in the future, there will be free competition between American, British and approved German films in both the British and American zones. Extensive dubbing in German is now in progress.

Denmark

(*Continued from page* 1)

would have been placed on the withdrawal of profits from that country, prices would have been set at which film distribution rights are sold, and maximum limits placed on the earning power of each film.

Further information on the proposed limitations indicated, according to a MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondent in Copenhagen, allotments of currency for individual companies of from 12 to 20 per cent of the corresponding period last year. Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, for example, were granted sums for a five month period which they normally use in less than five or six weeks' time. Columbia's allocation corresponds to less than one-half of what one picture, "A Song to Remember," has netted before it has even finished playing second-run houses and before it has had a chance to play outside of Copenhagen.

The correspondent further reported that independent distributors who have bought pictures at flat rates may benefit by the new Danish policy. Many pictures of lesser value, hitherto confronted with strong competition from major studios' better pictures, now will be able to command any of the bigger houses.

Labor Woes in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 2. — The Mexican industry has trouble of a new kind, a threat by extras to strike unless the Picture Production Workers Union officially permits them to organize and be a section of it, just as players are. The PPWU recently refused to allow the extras to form a section, contending that its regulations forbid such an organization as it would be unfair to players and bit players.

Geiger Arrives Here

Rod E. Geiger, the producer who brought the Italian-made "Open City" to the U. S., has arrived here after several months in Hollywood, where he completed arrangements for Luise Rainer to play in his forthcoming production, "Christ in Concrete." Sequences of the film will be shot in New York and England.

By Official Proclamation

TODAY IS

Unconquered Day

The Day All Pennsylvania Celebrates The

Pittsburgh World Premiere

of

Cecil B. DeMille's

UNCONQUERED

AMONG THOSE PRESENT:

His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania, James H. Duff
Hon. Edward Martin, Senator from Pennsylvania
Hon. William E. Jenner, Senator from Indiana
Hon. Robert J. Corbett, Representative from Pennsylvania
Hon. Herman P. Eberharter, Representative from Pennsylvania
Hon. Augustine B. Kelley, Representative from Pennsylvania
His Honor the Mayor of Pittsburgh, David L. Lawrence
His Honor the Mayor of Harrisburg, Howard E. Milliken
His Honor the Mayor of Johnstown, Arthur L. Schwing
His Honor the Mayor of McKeesport, C. A. Kinkaid
His Honor the Mayor of New Kensington, W. C. Walley
His Honor the Mayor of Uniontown, R. E. Umbel
His Honor the Mayor of Connellsville, Abe I. Daniels
His Honor the Mayor of Washington, Pa., George H. Krause
His Honor the Mayor of Williamsport, Leo C. Williamson
His Honor the Mayor of Akron, Charles E. Slusser
His Honor the Mayor of Milwaukee, John L. Bohn
His Honor the Mayor of Wheeling, Carl E. Bachmann
His Honor the Mayor of Fairmont, W. Va., Albert F. Robinson

LAUNCHING
Paramount's
PARAMOUNT
SEASON

GARY COOPER and PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
with Howard Da Silva, Boris Karloff, Cecil Kellaway, Ward Bond
Produced and Directed by Cecil B. DeMille
Color by TECHNICOLOR
Screenplay by Charles Bennett, Fredric M. Frank and Jesse Lasky, Jr.
Based on the novel by Neil H. Swanson

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Magic Town," was the most impressive among the newcomers in a week marked by extremely warm weather. "Life With Father" enjoyed a land-office third week. "Black Narcissus," subject of a pulpit admonition to Catholics based on its condemnation by the Legion of Decency, closed out a mild second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 1:

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I-Rank) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100)

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I-Rank)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100)

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I-Rank)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,300)

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I-Rank)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,900)

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I-Rank) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,400)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,300)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,300)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,400)

HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $4,300)

HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $9,600)

HAL ROACH COMEDY FESTIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,300.

HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $4,300)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,300)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,400)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $12,600)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,600)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,300)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,500)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,500)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,700)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio) and UNDER THE TONTO RIM (RKO Radio)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $21,700)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio) and UNDER THE TONTO RIM (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $12.500. (Average: $10.800)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $21,000)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,900)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average:. $13,800)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $21,200)

PHILADELPHIA

With only two new bookings in the first-run houses, the box-office is pretty generally below average. "Red Stallion" at the Stanton is proving popular fare. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 30-Oct. 2:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $13,800)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,700. (Average: $31,700)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,600. (Average: $29,500)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9.500)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $4.500. (Average: $6,200)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $14.500. (Average: $25,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 6th week. Gross: $19,500. (Average at regular prices of 74c-94c: $21,000)

RED STALLION (E-L)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $13,200. (Average: $12,700)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,600)

WILD HARVEST (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $27,000)

CLEVELAND

Business was mixed, with some houses doing exceptionally well. The weather was cold. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 1:

ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-90c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,250)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $19,600)

LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). On stage: Ted Weems. Gross: $28,500. (Average with stage show: $35,000)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $2,750)

MAYERLING (PAX)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $14,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 3rd week, on moveover. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,600)

Waters with Empire

Fred Waters, formerly of Donahue and Coe, and recently with Foote, Cone and Belding, is now with Empire State Craftsmen, specializing in typographic service to amusement and motion picture accounts.

Set 5-City Premiere For Republic Film

A state wide Texas premiere of Republic's "The Fabulous Texas," has been set, with the film scheduled for premieres in five cities, beginning Nov. 4, and additional openings set for 259 houses in the state immediately following the premiere, James R. Grainger, distribution vice-president, announces.

The film will have premieres in the Paramount Theatre in Austin; Majestic in Houston, San Antonio and Dallas, and the Worth Theatre in Fort Worth.

Pittsburgh Set

(Continued from page 1)

premiere of the picture at Loew's Penn tomorrow night.

In the premiere party are Charles Reagan, Leonard Goldenson, Curtis Mitchell, Ted O'Shea, Ben Washer, Olga San Juan, Virginia Welles, Billy De Wolfe, Howard Da Silva, Lizabeth Scott, MacDonald Carey, Hedda Hopper, Neil Swanson, Tom Pellegrine, Mort Nathanson and others.

Reception and cocktail parties preceded a premiere dinner and ball at the William Penn Hotel tonight, attended by Gov. James Duff of Pennsylvania, Mayor David Lawrence of Pittsburgh and leaders of the city's civic and social life.

A two-hour parade through the city's principal thoroughfares will be the highlight of the premiere day program tomorrow. State and city officials will be honor guests at the unreeling of "Unconquered" tomorrow night. The picture, historical action drama, has its setting in the pre-revolutionary period of the Fort Pitt area here.

Breakfast for DeMille

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 2. — The Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce will give a breakfast in honor of Cecil B. DeMille at the William Penn Hotel, here, tomorrow, the day of the world premiere of his "Unconquered" at Loew's Penn.

Testimonial for DeMille

CINCINNATI, Oct. 2.—Cecil B. DeMille, due here Monday for the opening of "The Unconquered" at the RKO Capitol, on Oct. 7, will be given a testimonial dinner in the Netherland Plaza on Tuesday, under the auspices of the Cuvier Press Club, with Roger H. Ferger, publisher of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, as toastmaster. He will also be a luncheon guest of the Press Club, with Hulbert Taft, publisher of the *Times-Star*, presiding.

New Hampshire Fire

NASHUA, N. H., Oct. 2. — Fire destroyed the century-old Park Theater Building in the heart of this city's business district this week, causing damage estimated between $300,000 and $400,000.

Monogram Fetes Castle

Don Castle, star of Jack Wrather Productions for Monogram and Allied Artists, will be Monogram's honor guest at a press reception following the screening of "High Tide" at the Monte Carlo here this afternoon.

SOPEG Members Vote 'No' to Counter-offer

Calling for immediate arbitration, the membership of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, last night voted unanimously to reject home office proposals seeking to continue the wage clause for the duration of the current contract which expires in September, 1948. The SOPEG membership, which met in an emergency session at the Hotel Diplomat, here, also set up a strategy committee to complete preparations for the arbitration and to bring [illegible] union's case before the public.

The company's offer was made as a counter-proposal to the union's demands for an increase of 30 per cent or $10, whichever is higher, for 2,500 film industry employes.

Delay '306' Strike

(Continued from page 1)

representatives and the local's negotiating committee. The 'IA' president was said to be confident that enough progress had been made this week to assure a settlement upon his return. He is expected to remain in San Francisco for at least three weeks.

It is understood that the negotiating committee was given assurance by Walsh that an equitable settlement will be achieved. Basing its action upon Walsh's assurance, the committee voted to delay strike action, and to present this recommendation to a local membership meeting, to be held next week.

Although the committee voted delay, the vote was not unanimous, it is understood. It is expected that the committee's recommendation will be approved by the membership.

Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

manner only. Reports have it that certain members of the board are wary of any arbitrary action in the way of making increases that might possibly leave the society vulnerable to charges of abuse of power.

It is known there is a wide divergence in exhibitor thinking on what Ascap should charge, with the final decision on a new scale resting, of course, with Ascap itself. Although any agreements made by exhibitor organization leaders would not bind members, the leaders' recommendations would carry considerable weight with members.

Charges of "abuse-of-power" will be among others leveled against Ascap in a motion for a restraining order to be filed in New York Federal Court today, it is understood. The move will be made within the framework of a pending anti-trust action against the society filed by members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York.

The plaintiffs seek to prevent Ascap from putting into effect any increased music performing rates for theatremen.

Changes at Omaha Houses

OMAHA, Oct. 2. — R. D. Goldberg, circuit operator, has announced new policies at two of his top houses, including conversion of his State Theatre in downtown Omaha to a first run. Goldberg said the Dundee Theatre would become ethe "prestige" house of his group.

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Competitive Bids Confuse, OwnersCharge

Companies Are Blamed by KMTAMemberExhibitors

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 5.—Post-convention conclusions of many members of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, following last week's session, basically disclose that the competitive bidding situation is still confusing.

The owners place the blame at least partially on what is described as the "erratic action of some distributors" in changing procedure from time to time.

Competitive bidding is certain to raise rentals, it is held, and further damaging disadvantages right now come in competitive bidding's forcing late bookings—hindering, for example, long-range plans for merchandising and booking itself. Lost, too,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Paramount Seeks Video Re-alignment

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Paramount Pictures has asked the Federal Communications Commission to reconsider an earlier decision which would prevent either Paramount or the Allen B. Dumont Laboratories, Inc., from acquiring additional television stations,

(*Continued on page* 4)

CEA Heads Delayed In Making US Trip

London, Oct. 5. — W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, president, who, last week, were scheduled to leave here "immediately" by plane for Washington to confer with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston on the British *ad valorem* tax impasse, have been obliged to delay their departure until probably next week.

Delay is due in part to the necessity for their attendance at a CEA general council meeting which has been called for Wednesday.

Screen Guild To Have 24

CHICAGO, Oct. 5.—Although foreign film tax drains have slashed receipts of Screen Guild Productions $10,000 to $20,000 per picture, a full 24-picture schedule will remain for the 1947-48 season, president John Jones announced here at the sales convention at the Hotel Blackstone.

Jones also disclosed the appointment of Harris Dudelson, former Cincinnati branch manager for United Artists, to the newly-created post of district manager covering the territory from Kansas City to Pittsburgh. The post of Eastern district manager was also created but as yet no one has been appointed to that position.

Acquisition of four Edward Small-United Artists productions for re-release by Screen Guild was also announced. The films obtained are: "Abroad with Two Yanks," "Little Annie Rooney," "King of the Turf" and "Duke of West Point."

TOA Constitution Refutes Allied: Levy

The constitution of the new Theatre Owners of America stands as a refutation of charges by National Allied that the TOA is dominated by the distributor-affiliated circuits within its ranks, Herman M. Levy, TOA general counsel, declared at the weekend as copies of the instrument were mailed to all TOA members.

"You will note that policy-making and administration are vested in the

(*Continued on page* 4)

Anti-Ascap Move Now Due This Week

Motion to restrain the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers from raising music rates for theatres has been put off to this week by the plaintiffs, members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, of New York. Additional time was found to be needed in completing complaint papers which were to have been filed last Friday.

MPA's Library Bogs Down On the Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 5. — Failure of local exchanges to have sufficient prints of films listed in the Children's Film Library to supply the demand, has caused a bogging down of the motion picture public relations campaign.

After spreading the goodwill gospel to PTA's, Federation of Women's Clubs and other local groups with motion picture sections, Hulda McGinn, public relations director with the California Theatres Association, discovered most exchanges carried only one print of listed Children's Library films, and frequently none at all.

Fortified with elaborate brochures distributed by the Eric Johnston office, clubwomen have been beleaguering theatres managers to run the approved pictures. All explanations by theatremen are said to have been sluffed off by clubwomen as "alibis."

Nine Exhibitor Meets Set On Problems of the Day

The most significant agenda in years will mark forthcoming conventions of at least eight regional, and one national, exhibitor organizations within the next two months, with top-level business matters slated that will far overshadow such more or less prosaic subjects as local checking, local disputes and distributors' practices.

Destined to be given top consideration are the intended music performance rate increases by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; discussion of and, in some cases, possible affiliation with the new Theatre Owners of America, and advanced-admission-price product forthcoming from the distributors.

Meetings coming up, listed chronologically, follow:

Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan, in Detroit, Oct. 13-15; Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee, at the Hotel Chisca, Memphis, Oct. 14-15; Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, Louisville, Oct. 22-23; West Virginia Managers Association, at the Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, Nov. 6-8; Associated Theatres of Indiana, Indianapolis, Nov. 18-19; Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, Dallas, Nov. 24-25; Allied Theatre Owners of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Nov. 24-25; Allied of Upper Michigan, and the national Allied convention, Milwaukee, Dec. 1-3.

MPA Agrees to Block of 30% In Australia

Withheld Funds Usable For Local Investment

Members of the Motion Picture Association have agreed to the terms stipulated by Prime Minister J. B. Chifley of Australia, for future distribution of U. S. product in that country.

The agreement provides for the limitation of remittances of current income at 70 per cent, it was announced at the weekend by Eric A. Johnston, MPA president.

The agreement will mean the continued flow of American films to Australia, Johnston said. No mention of the position of independent producers was made and it is known the independents are against any such with-

(*Continued on page* 4)

O'Connor Elected Treasurer of RKO

Board of directors of RKO Theatres at the weekend elected Thomas F. O'Connor treasurer, replacing A. W. Dawson who resigned as a director, vice-president and treasurer. The board accepted Dawson's resignation "with regret."

O'Connor will continue as supervisor of the real estate and maintenance departments. Harold E. Newcomb, former auditing department executive, has been elevated to the treasurer's department, and has been succeeded in his previous position by former auditing aide Edward W. Avery, who was elected an assistant treasurer as well.

Test Tilted Scale For DeMille Film

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 5.—Whether or not Paramount will sell Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" at advanced admissions generally will depend upon results of that policy in the 11 test-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Reviewed Today

"Where There's Life" is reviewed on page 3.

Personal Mention

JACK L. WARNER, Warner studio executive producer, left New York on Saturday for the Coast.

●

HERMAN GOLDBERG, Warner purchasing agent and supervisor of maintenance for its exchanges, will leave here today for Washington.

●

LOUIS SALLET, comptroller of Technicolor, Inc., is due in town today from the Coast for a two-week business visit.

●

VICTOR SAVILLE, M-G-M director, who has just returned here from England, is planning a trip to Boston before returning to the Coast.

●

SAM SHAIN, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor and public relations director, returned to New York at the weekend from Kansas City.

●

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager for Warner, returned to town over the weekend from Toronto.

●

NORMAN AYERS, Warner Southern division sales manager, is due back in New York today from Dallas and Oklahoma City.

●

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR., M-G-M producer, is expected here this week from Hollywood.

●

MAURICE CHEVALIER will sail on the *SS De Grasse* tomorrow from Le Havre for New York.

'Dem Bums' Charter For Film Business

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 5.—Certificates were filed with the office of the Secretary of State at the weekend by the Brooklyn National League Baseball Club, Inc., to permit the club to produce, distribute and exhibit films and deal in motion picture equipment, supplies and accessories and to enable it to carry accounts of baseball games and other sports and educational programs and entertainment over radio and television.

Papers were co-signed by the Ebbetts-McKeever Exhibition Co., Inc. Signatures were affixed by the Dodgers' club president Branch Rickey and four other stockholders, including attorney Walter O'Malley.

Fete Actors Here

A reception will be held for Doris Day and Michael North, player discoveries of Michael Curtiz, here, on Thursday afternoon in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Miss Day, who arrived here from Hollywood at the weekend, will make her debut in Curtiz' "Romance in High C," while North will arrive here Wednesday. He appeared in "The Unsuspected."

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ERIC JOHNSTON'S letter to Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, published last week, reveals an eminently sound industry position in relation to the coming hearings by the House Committee on Un-American Activities on the charges of communistic influence in motion pictures.

Johnston assured the committee chairman that the industry welcomes the hearing, will furnish witnesses in addition to those already called by the committee and stated in unmistakable language that responsible heads of the industry "abhor and detest communism."

That should place the industry on the side of the committee —providing only that the committee is willing to conduct a fair hearing and with an objective considerably more serious and sincere than the irresponsible carnival antics that have marked some of its headline-grabbing tactics of the past.

●

The Motion Picture Association president realistically conceded that there are communists in Hollywood, exactly as there are in other industries and elsewhere in America.

Johnston reminded the committee that the industry cannot be responsible for the "political or economic views of any individual," and asserted that the industry would like to see the communists within its fold "exposed."

He said the responsibility of the industry is to see that communistic propaganda does not reach the screen via the organized industry's product.

"The pictures themselves are proof that it has not," Johnston said.

The committee, no doubt, will endeavor to lead the public to gain a different impression. It is difficult to define communism and the man in the street has no clear understanding of what communism is.

It need only be recalled that the *Chicago Tribune* and other segments of the American press charged that the late President Roosevelt and his political philosophy was communistic, and many readers believed it.

It is inevitable that hand-picked committee witnesses, who probably will not be subject to cross-examination by the industry representatives at the hearing, can be led into making statements that will either convince or confuse the public concerning the charges made against motion pictures. What is liberalism to one man is communism to another. What is not understood by one man can be labelled anything and can be accepted by that label by the unknowing.

Therein lies the danger to the industry in the hearings.

Despite the motion picture's clean record, it will take expert generalship to avert the harm that can be done the industry.

It will require either that or a fair hearing.

Those in Washington familiar with the tactics of the Un-American Activities committee advise not to place too much reliance upon the latter.

● ●

What impresses many as the soundest bit of advice yet to be given to exhibitors on the subject of opposition to the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, is that of E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, who suggested to Theatre Owners of America that exhibitors join with all other Ascap licensees in a long-range endeavor for limitation of Ascap power through revision of the Federal Copyright law.

It is conceded by organizations such as Allied States, which are interested in restriction of Ascap by legislation, that the way to go about it is by direct contact with Congressional representatives, at their home doorsteps, as Allied units in Texas, Indiana, Ohio and elsewhere are doing now.

There is common cause among all Ascap licensees.

Doesn't it follow that an appeal for Congressional action joined in by broadcasters, hotel men, dance hall and juke box operators and all other Ascap licensees will get to more representatives, with more weight, in less time than will the sporadic, unorganized, lone-wolf efforts of exhibitors?

As the old saying goes: Why send a boy on a man's errand? Particularly when there is, as in the case of Ascap licensees, a couple of men handy just waiting to be put to work.

Obviously, it will take time to accomplish any such legislative work. In the meantime, exhibitors should avail themselves of the existing opportunity to negotiate lower Ascap rates than those proposed by the Society.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN urging food conservation is a highlight of current newsreels. Also covered are scenes of the havoc wrought by floods in Japan, the testing of an Army helicopter, the salvaging of canned salmon from a sunken ship. Various human interest subjects round out the reels.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 11—Presi[illegible] Truman asks U. S. to help war on hunger in Europe. Floods in Japan. Asbestos mine in Canada. Army helicopter tested. Cordell Hull at 76. Greek Holy Cross Day celebrated at Asbury Park. Oregon fishing. Canadian weight-lifting contest. Musicians give concerts for war veterans.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 209—President Truman urges U. S. to save food for starving Europe. Walter Winchell vs. Vishinsky. Canned salmon fishing. Hirohito views flood disaster. Musicians bolster morale of wounded veterans.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 12—Air forces test giant helicopter. Hirohito visits flood victims. Moroccan tribe revives ancient desert festival. Musicians serve on morale front. Nation asked to buy wisely, eat sensibly, waste nothing.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 79—Presidential commission urges saving of food to combat hunger crisis. Hirobito visits Japanese flood victims. Army helicopter tested. Canned salmon syphoned from sunken ship. Public service musicians help raise morale of war veterans. Tulane-Alabama football classic.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 13—Canned salmon cargo saved. Some 50,000 demonstrate in Rome. Truman names food board. Union has free concerts. German-bound sugar starts riot in France. Hirohito visits flood area. Barbers learn "the feather touch."

Clearance Deal for Cleveland Houses

CLEVELAND, Oct. 5.—A 21-day clearance deal for subsequent houses, as outlined by Andrew W. Smith, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has been closed here with Warners for the Vogue and Variety theatres, according to I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox branch manager here.

These theatres have been playing on a 35-day clearance. Under the new deal they will play day and date with Keith's East 10th Street Theatre.

Monday Closing Set

Century Theatres' home office, here, will be closed all day Monday, Oct. 13, in honor of Columbus Day which falls on the preceding Sunday. Other circuit and home offices here are expected to close all or part of Monday.

Jefferson Seckinger, 36

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Oct. 5.—Jefferson Seckinger, 36, manager of the Arcade Theatre, here, who was associated with Florida Theatre Corp. for 16 years, was killed in an automobile accident near Vero Beach on Sept. 28, it became known here today.

Rites for A. Kahn

Funeral services for Abraham Kahn, father of Irving Kahn, 20th Century-Fox radio promotional manager, here, were held yesterday at the Apter Funeral Chapel in Newark. Kahn died last Thursday.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Publisbed daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and bolidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningbam, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Otber Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourtb week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Ampa Meet Oct.23 on 'Ads Mean Business'

"Good advertising means business," will be the theme of an Oct. 23 luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, to be held at the Town Hall Club, here.

Three topics, to be followed by an open forum, will be discussed by advertising agency executives: "Media Is My Business," "Good Copy Sells Tickets," and Merchandising That Makes the Advertising Dollar Work Harder." AMPA president Arnold Stoltz will preside.

SEC Report Notes Film Stock Sales

PHILADELPHIA Oct. 5.—Sale of 40,000 shares of Loew's, Inc., common during the period from Aug. 11 to Sept. 10 was revealed yesterday by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its monthly report. The transaction, which topped film stock activity for the month, brought Nicholas Schenck's total holdings of Loew's to 21,727 shares.

Two other Loew's officials disposed of extensive blocks of Loew's common. J. Robert Rubin disposed of 2,000 shares and Charles C. Moskowitz sold 1,000.

Joseph H. Moskowitz sold 1,000 shares of 20th Century-Fox, bringing his total to 1,500. Fred L. Metzler, Los Angeles, also sold 1,000 shares while Lehman Brothers, New York, purchased 400 shares to cover a "short."

Activity in Columbia Pictures common also involved selling. The Jack Cohn trust disposed of 700 shares; A. Montague sold 300 shares, and Abraham Schneider transferred 600 shares to the Schneider Foundation. Montague also reported holding 10,426 warrants for common stock.

One transaction was reported in RKO Radio stock—sale of 300 shares by L. Lawrence Green.

George D. Burrows exercised his option for 3,000 shares of Monogram common during the report period.

Realart Sets Deal For 24 Reissues

Realart Pictures, in addition to distribution deals previously completed with Eagle-Lion and Film Classics, has consummated state right deals for 24 more Universal feature reissues during 1947-48 season, according to an announcement by Budd Rogers, vice-president and general sales manager of Realart. The films will be released in various state right exchanges at the rate of two a month.

Among the films are: "The Black Cat," "Black Friday," "Butch Minds the Baby," "Tight Shoes," "The Invisible Man," "The Invisible Man Returns," "Little Tough Guys," "Little Tough Guys in Society," "Son of Dracula," "The Mummy's Tomb," "Ex-Champ," "Sin Town," "Alias Mary Dow," "Ghost of Frankenstein," "The Mummy's Ghost," "When Tomorrow Comes," "The Storm," "Give Us Wings," "You're Not So Tough."

Review

"Where There's Life"

(Paramount)

A GOOD laugh is marketable at any box-office, and Paramount's latest vehicle for Bob Hope abounds in them. It is a neatly-wrapped-up package of comedy, supported by good production values, and reinforced with an arresting cast, which includes Signe Hasso, William Bendix, George Coulouris and Vera Marshe.

The story travels to the mythical kingdom of Barovia where the monarch, on his deathbed, reveals that by a secret marriage he has a son living in New York who is the heir-presumptive to the throne. A secret mission, headed by General Katrina Grimovitch (Miss Hasso) thus depart for the city to bring back the new king. The lucky fellow turns out to be Hope who is, of all things, a disc jockey for an all-night radio show. An opposing political faction of hooded assassins, however, are out to seize the throne, and soon, as Hope puts it, his life gets as tangled up as a load of wetwash.

As it should be, the screenplay, by Allen Boretz and Melville Shavelson is more preoccupied with hilarity than realistic sequences. It isn't long before Hope finds himself the target of knives, bullets and the vituperation of Bendix, who is the policeman brother of the girl Hope was about to marry before he got caught in the whirlwind. A number of exploits follow, giving Hope full sway for his familiar succession of continuous gags. In an airplane finale, Hope comes face to face with badman Coulouris, when it develops that Hope is the wrong man, and furthermore the dying king has regained his health.

Of course Hope dominates the picture, but Miss Hasso contributes amply. In military garb or in more graceful attire, she cuts an attractive figure. As the long-winded cop, Bendix is at home in his role, while Miss Marshe is aptly cast as the fiancee. Paul Jones produced and Sidney Lanfield directed, from a story by Shavelson.

Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Price to Entertain

Georgie Price will head the entertainment show for the Motion Picture Bookers Club's annual dinner-dance at the Commodore Hotel here on Oct. 12, Edward Richter, of the local M-G-M exchange, and in charge of arrangements, announces.

Films for Radio Mentors

Amusement Enterprises, Inc., producers of the Jack Benny and Jack Paar air shows, are going into film production. Bernie Luber, general manager of the company, discloses that the first picture will star Dorothy Lamour in "The Lucky Stiff."

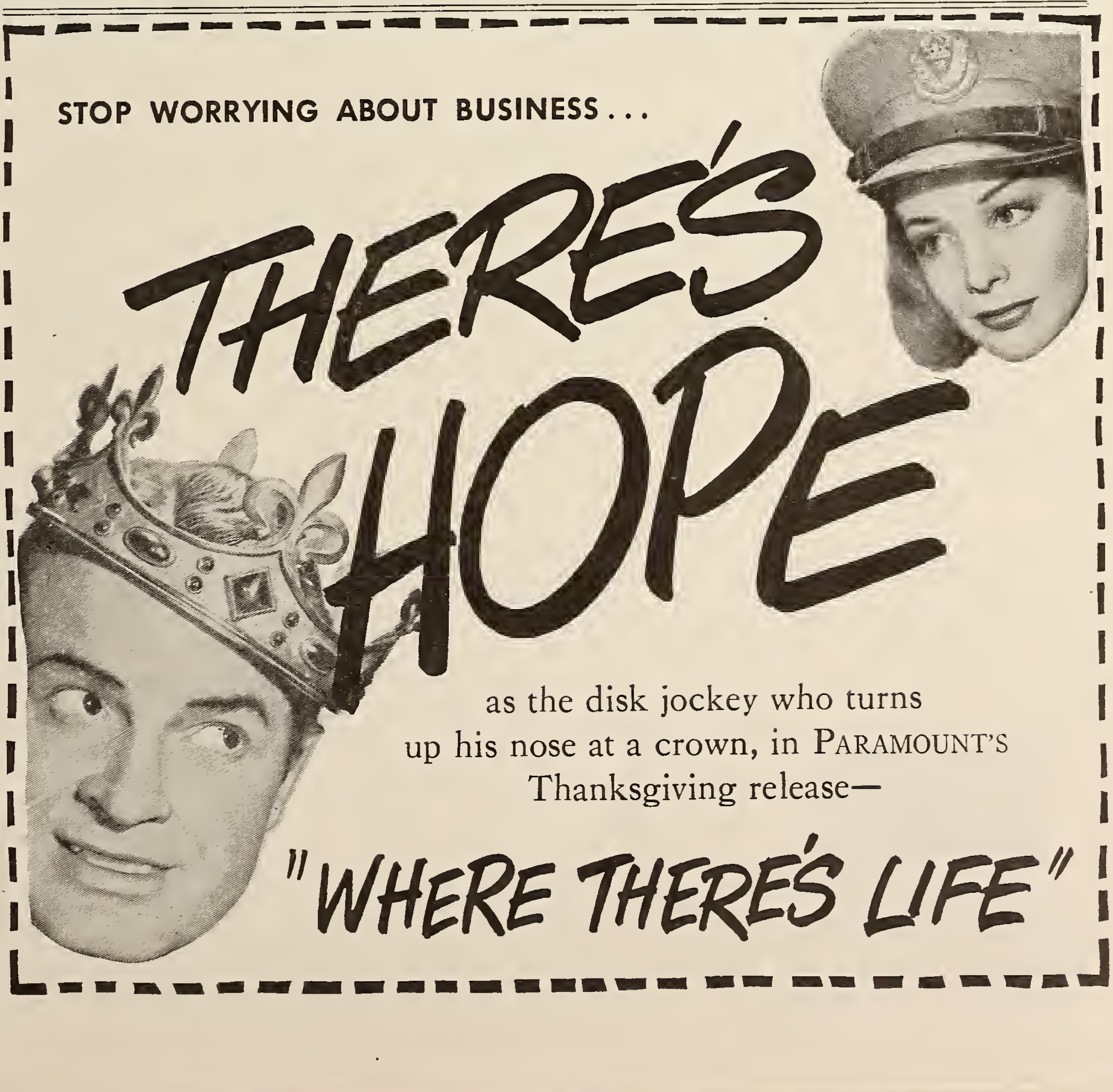
Schlaifer to Coast For Product Confab

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, accompanied by Christy Wilbert, advertising manager, left here over the weekend for the coast to consult with studio executives on forthcoming products.

Schlaifer will discuss advertising—publicity plans for "Captain from Castile," "Gentleman's Agreement" and "The Snake Pit" with Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of production, Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, and Harry Brand, director of publicity at the studio. En route to and from the Coast, Schlaifer will stop off to meet field personnel and exhibitors on the forthcoming roadshow release of "Forever Amber" starting Oct. 22. His schedule calls for stopovers in Chicago, Kansas City, San Francisco, Denver and Salt Lake City.

UA-RKO Film Talks Still on at Weekend

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—United Artists negotiations for the purchase of an undetermined number of RKO Radio pictures continued over the weekend, with Gradwell L. Sears, UA president; Arthur Kelly, vice-president, and George Bagnall consulting co-owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin on the selections made, prices and terms. Although reports number the films contemplated in the deal from two to seven, both companies have clamped a lid of secrecy on product screened as a means of protecting the properties excluded.


STOP WORRYING ABOUT BUSINESS...
THERE'S HOPE
as the disk jockey who turns up his nose at a crown, in PARAMOUNT'S Thanksgiving release—
"WHERE THERE'S LIFE"

French Aim to Pay Their Debt: Lissim

The French government believes it will be in a position to fulfill its commitments under the Blum-Byrnes accord by January, Wladimir Lissim, European general manager for RKO Radio, said here yesterday.

Under the terms of the accord, U. S. film companies are scheduled to receive $11,400,000 in dollars before the end of October. Lissim said that 25 per cent of that amount had been received before French Foreign Minister Bidault announced that France's dollar resources were being rapidly exhausted.

Lissim added that it had been reported in France that French government authorities considered the $11,400,000 "a debt of honor" and will make certain that it is paid. If the Marshall plan is placed in effect, Lissim said, the amount will certainly be paid. A new film agreement, therefore, will probably be negotiated, Lissim added.

He disclosed that RKO Radio will probably enter production in Italy next winter, and commented: "This is the only way to get some money out of Italy." Studio facilities are available in Rome and in Turin, Lissim said.

He also disclosed that 10 days ago Portugal began to institute restrictions, although they do not affect motion pictures at present. In Sweden, his company is getting 50 per cent of its remittances, and in Norway, 30 per cent.

Lissim predicted that RKO business in Europe will increase next year at least 100 per cent, but in "terms of European currencies."

The outlook in Spain is not bright, Lissim said, adding: "The release of a picture costs so much money that an American company operating there cannot make any money."

Lissim said that the Motion Picture Export Association closed "good deals" with Czechoslovakia and Poland, and that he was sure regular payments of dollars would be made, through the MPEA, by those two countries.

fly
"the Los Angeles"
United's DC-6 Mainliner 300
Luxury Flight
Leave New York 12 noon
Arrive Los Angeles 8:10 p.m.
UNITED AIR LINES
Airlines Terminal, 80 E. 42nd St. or
Pennsylvania Hotel or 1 Wall St.
Call Murray Hill 2-7300
or an autharized travel agent

Speculate on New Accord in Demark

No action is contemplated at present on the Danish situation, it was said at the Motion Picture Export Association offices at the weekend, following word from Copenhagen that the Danish government has banned the showing of American films in that country.

While foreign heads of the companies declined to comment here, it was speculated that three possible alternatives could be followed:

The industry could accept the present situation and sit tight.

The industry could attempt to negotiate for a compromise.

Or Denmark could be placed under the MPEA, and MPEA would then determine whether it is possible to function in Denmark.

The Danish government's action followed a refusal by American film companies to accept Danish proposals limiting withdrawal of profits, fixing a maximum earning power for each film, and fixing prices at which distribution rights might be sold.

SIMPP Members Meet Today On Danish, UK Situations

Hollywood, Oct. 5.—Members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will meet here tomorrow to hear a report on the Danish situation by Donald Nelson, SIMPP president, who is due here tomorrow from New York and Washington. He will also report on the British outlook.

Australia

(*Continued from page* 1)

holding of funds. Representatives of the independents were not available for comment.

The terms agreed upon specify that earnings in excess of 70 per cent can be expended in Australia for local production, payment of capital debts, expenditures on improvements, employes' pension funds, real estate relating to the business of the film company, government and industrial securities and loans to theatre corporations.

The blocked funds must be held in Australia for 10 years; the agreement is effective as of Sept. 1, 1947.

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia will administer the agreement.

TOA Constitution

(*Continued from page* 1)

board of directors which is made up of persons designated by local, state or regional trade associations which belong to the Theatre Owners of America," Levy wrote in his constitution transmittal letter. The individual units' directors elect their own officers under the constitution, Levy pointed out, and asserted that that point is proof positive that charges of domination by affiliateds are in error.

Levy believes it is likely that most directors of the old Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will be reelected TOA directors. Levy was general counsel of the MPTOA, which merged with the old American Theatres Association to form TOA.

Paramount Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

and at the same time, Paramount disavowed any control of Dumont but laid before FCC a plan which would make it impossible for the film company to have any more say in Dumont affairs than that accorded minority stockholders in any corporation.

FCC ruled last spring that Paramount, through ownership of all of Dumont's class B stock and over two per cent of the class A shares, was in a position to control the company. As a result, FCC has given both companies until Oct. 15 to pare down Paramount's ownership or dismiss a total of four pending television station bids.

FCC limits one company or commonly-held organization from owning more than five video stations. Paramount now has WBKB, Chicago, and KTLA, Los Angeles. Dumont holds permits for WTTG, Washington, WABD, New York City and for a third outlet in Pittsburgh.

Paramount has additional bids on file for Detroit and Boston, while Dumont is applying in Cincinnati and Cleveland.

Paramount said FCC had not decided that it or any other party actually held a controlling interest in Dumont, but concluded that the film company might acquire such control through solicitation of proxies for the A stock, and since it owns all of the B stock, FCC decided it "could exercise certain veto power in all corporate matters requiring the consent of the stockholders."

Paramount counsel Duke Patrick wrote FCC that the company would take action, either through transfer of class A stock or waive its right to solicit proxies to a voting trust in such a manner as to relinquish all voting privileges.

As far as the class B stock is concerned, Paramount said it can exercise no measure of control over the corporate affairs of Dumont that cannot "be exercised generally by minority stockholders in any corporation." Paramount owns a total of 30 per cent of all Dumont stock.

Say Bidding Confuses

(*Continued from page* 1)

it is felt, is prestige advertising by a theatre that requires a knowledge of assured bookings of forthcoming product.

In their post-convention conversations, the conclusion was drawn that an exhibitor need not worry over the drifting away of his clientele if he passes up a picture offered competitively. And, they conclude, there is no point in buying a picture by bidding if the bid is too high to make a profit.

Multi - Opening For 'Power' in New York

"Power Behind the Nation," Warner-produced and Motion Picture Association-sponsored short subject, will open in 11 Broadway theatres here and in several Metropolitan area circuits on Oct. 11, the MPA reports.

The Broadway theatres include the Paramount, Palace, Rialto, Strand, Warner, Gotham, New York, Victoria, Capitol, State and Criterion. Subscribing circuits are Warner, Paramount, Fox, RKO, Loew, Schine, Skouras, and various independents.

N. Haven Territory Has 191 Theatres

Washington, Oct. 5.—Some 191 theatres with a total seating capacity of 178,948 are now in operation in the New Haven territory, it is reported in the Motion Picture Association's new New Haven directory.

Twenty-nine towns operate theatres within the New Haven exchange ar[illegible] according to this analysis, which is [illegible] second in a series of 31 territorial directories to be issued by the MPA's research department.

Approximately 40 per cent of the theatres in the territory, with an aggregate seating capacity of 86,281, are located in the territory's five biggest cities: Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury and New Britain.

DeMille Film Scale

(*Continued from page* 1)

test opening engagements, DeMille indicated here yesterday.

He said the picture could have been brought in for $3,500,000 instead of its $4,200,000 cost except for the Hollywood jurisdictional strike. With Technicolor prints and advertising, its cost is $5,000,000. DeMille said that originally it was estimated the picture would gross $9,000,000 world-wide. Then foreign markets defaulted, necessitating a downward revision of its grossing possibilities.

DeMille's next will be "Samson and Delilah," also in color. He has set no budget for it yet, but said he has had experience in adapting his technique to periods of economy. "Sign of the Cross," he said, was made for $640,000. DeMille took a prominent part in more than a dozen public affairs here leading up to the world premiere of his "Unconquered" on Friday.

Half of Pittsburgh took part in a two-hour parade through this city's principal thoroughfares on Friday while the other half watched. Subsequently DeMille and visiting stars participated in a special program at the site of Old Fort Pitt. Governor James Duff, Pittsburgh's Mayor David Lawrence and business and civic leaders were speakers, with references to the "unconquered" spirit of America prominent among the rostrum themes.

The two full days and nights of hoopla came inevitably to a climax Friday night with the world premiere of the DeMille picture at Loew's Penn, but not without further pre-show fanfare for the premiere crowds at the theatre where stars and celebrities were introduced.

'U' Stockholder Suit

Universal minority stockholder Bertha T. Aine filed suit against the company and five directors in New York Federal Court at the weekend, charging that the five realized profits of over $250,000 in stock deals alleged to have been in violation of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
Motion Picture Studio For Sale
Complete studio facilities for 35mm. and 16mm. motion pictures. Cameras, lights, carpentry shop, dolly, etc. Generous lease.
BOX 393, MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 6th Avenue, New York 20, N. Y.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1947 TEN CENTS

Columbia Net For '46-47 Up To $3,707,000

Figure Indicates Rise of $257,000 Over 1946

Net profit of $3,707,000, estimated, for the 52 weeks ended last June 30, was reported here yesterday by Columbia. The figure represents an increase of $257,000 over the comparable figure for the 52 weeks ended June 30, 1946, when the net profit was $3,450,000.

Earnings per share of common stock for the 52 weeks ended June 30, 1947, were $5.33, compared to $5 for the comparable 1946 period.

Comparative earnings per share of common stock, after preferred stock dividends, were calculated on an increased amount of common which was

(*Continued on page* 10)

MPA Board to Meet On Foreign Market

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—Board of directors of the Motion Picture Association has been called to another meeting here on Thursday for further consideration of the British and other foreign market problems. MPA spokesmen said the meeting will be of more than ordinary import and may be "crucial."

W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association of England, and B. T. Davis, president, are expected to arrive here from London on the following day for conferences with Eric Johnston, MPA president, on proposals looking to the development of possible alternatives to

(*Continued on page* 11)

Australian Industry Relieved by Accord

Settlement of negotiations by U. S. majors with the Australian government on future distribution of U. S. product in that country brought expressions of relief yesterday from the Australian Film Producers Association, according to Australian sources here.

Spokesmen for the Australian association in Melbourne said it had been feared that the American film companies would not agree to the Aus-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Series Belts NY Business

Matinee business at first-runs here tumbled during the past seven days probably in direct proportion to New Yorkers' interest in the World Series, which at the outset was enthusiastic and which later developed into a state of fanaticism. Evening grosses were good, however, helping the majority of theatres to limp through the week. Afternoon business was off as much as 50 per cent in neighborhood houses.

The baseball clashes at Yankee Staudium and Ebbets Field gave radio's young brother, television, one of its most prominent roles to date, according to the Television Broadcasters Association's J. R. Poppele, with an estimated 700,000 watching the games through the new medium.

"The Unsuspected," teamed with Blue Barron's orchestra, is making a hefty $60,000 in a first week at the Strand, all the more impressive in view of the "subway series" baseball competition. Another new one, "Spirit of West Point," is doing good with $20,000 estimated for the first week.

The Roxy show, comprising "Foxes of Harrow" and Milton Berle on the stage, is still making a box-office conquest, with $117,000 for a second week, this on basis of $91,000 taken

(*Continued on page* 8)

NCA in Attack on Raised Admissions

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 6.—In a bulletin to members of North Central Allied, president Ben Berger warns that "any exhibitor who forces his customers to pay these advanced (roadshow) admission prices and suffers the consequent loss of business before and after this one engagement without getting at least half of the receipts, can't see beyond the end of his nose."

Calling Samuel Goldwyn's recent statement citing the British tax on film exports and its resultant effect on

(*Continued on page* 11)

Smith Calls 20th Sales Meet Nov. 10

A three-day meeting of 20th Century-Fox division sales managers will be held on Nov. 10-12 at the home office, called by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager. Managers will discuss forthcoming product and sales plans for 1948, and hear reports from

(*Continued on page* 10)

West Virginia MPTO Votes to Join TOA

Ronceverte, W. Va., Oct. 6.—The MPTO of West Virginia has voted unanimously to join Theatre Owners of America. Members of the West Virginia organization, polled by mail, also elected J. C. Shanklin, president, as their director on the TOA board for a one-year term.

Boston, Oct. 6.—Allied Theatres of New England has named Martin Mullin to represent it on the board of the Theatre Owners of America.

RFC Unaware of Nelson Loan Request

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—Published reports that Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is awaiting word from the Reconstruction Finance Corp. on whether it will lend money to independent producers, are meeting with surprised looks among RFC officials.

Several RFC top people claim they are not working on any request for funds and have no even received such a request from Nelson.

"I talked with most of the RFC directors, including chairman John Goodloe," said one spokesman for the agency, "None of them knows anything about any reply to be made to Nelson. No requests for a loan have been made and so far as we know, Nelson is not waiting to hear from anybody here. He was in the office

(*Continued on page* 11)

UA Independents to Resume Production

At least three producers releasing through United Artists will swing back into actual production within the next two months, with banks again providing the financing, Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, reported here upon his return from the Coast yesterday. Independent production for the most part has been suspended since the announcement of the loss of the British market for new product, and at which time banking institutions called a halt to financing pending a study of the overall matter.

Kelly explained that the producers are now carefully mulling over story

(*Continued on page* 10)

Theatres Not Covered By T-H Law: 'IA'

Says Projectionists Not In Interstate Commerce

The IATSE has officially taken the position that its affiliated projectionists locals are not covered by the Taft-Hartley law, it is revealed in a letter received by IA local unions from organization headquarters here.

The IA's stand is predicated upon the assumption that projectionists, as employes of local theatres, are not engaged in interstate commerce and, therefore, are not subject to the Federal labor law.

Supporting the IA position is the fact that several regional units of the

(*Continued on page* 11)

Seek Jurisdictional Pact at Coast Meet

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 6.—Meetings between producers' representatives and heads of the international unions involved in the Hollywood jurisdictional strike are scheduled to open here tomorrow.

The meetings were called by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, after a recent

(*Continued on page* 11)

ATOI Asks Payment For 'Ads' in Product

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 6.—An offer to aid exhibitors to collect from advertisers whose products appear in feature pictures on their screens has been made by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana in its current bulletin.

The bulletin charges that producers, "in their grasping for every dollar," are making advertising "plugs" in pictures "more and more direct." It declares: "In 'Ride the Pink Horse'

(*Continued on page* 11)

3 Reviews Today

"This Time for Keeps" is reviewed on page 7; "The Last Round-up" and "The Wild Frontier" on page 10. Key city grosses are reported on page 8.

Coming Events

Oct. 12.—Motion Picture Bookers Club dinner-dance, Commodore Hotel, New York.

Oct. 13-15—National Allied board of directors meeting; and annual convention of Michigan Allied, Detroit.

Oct. 14-15—Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners annual convention, Hotel Chisca, Memphis, Tenn.

Oct. 20-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers 62nd semi-annual convention, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 22-23—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners convention, Louisville.

Nov. 19—Annual dinner of the Motion Picture Pioneers, Hotel Plaza, New York.

Nov. 24-25—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas convention, Dallas.

Goetz, Becker Leave Republic's Board

Resignations of Harry Goetz and Samuel Becker from Republic's board of directors have been accepted, and it is understood that other resignations will take place. Three new directors are to be elected.

The resignations of Goetz and Becker, who is Goetz's attorney, followed the finalization of a deal under which Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, is understood to have purchased all or most of the 80,000 shares held by Goetz in Republic and associated companies. Purchase price was not disclosed but it was estimated to be approximately $500,000.

MPF Election Delayed

All mail ballots for the election of a national trustee, permanent chairman and other officers to head the New York Metropolitan area unit of the Motion Picture Foundation were not received at the weekend by Sol Strausberg, who is in charge of balloting, he reported. Strausberg said he expects to announce the results this week, however.

Iowa-Nebr. Allied Board Meets Today

Omaha, Oct. 6.—Ascap's 300 per cent music license fee increase for theatres will highlight discussions of a board of director's meeting of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, at a meeting at the Fontenelle Hotel, tomorrow.

Other trade problems on the agenda will be aired at an open meeting, including the 20th-Fox sales plan for small towns and "distress" situations, local and Federal taxes and local checkers.

Personal Mention

GEORGE SCHAEFER, Enterprise distribution chief, has returned here from the Coast.

●

J. R. POPPELE, president of Television Broadcasters Association, has received an award from the American Television Society for his efforts in solving problems confronting the video industry.

●

JACK AUSTIN, city manager of North Carolina Theatres, Charlotte, has been named public information chairman of the Mecklenburg County Red Cross chapter.

●

LOU COHEN, manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, has been appointed Hartford theatres division chairman of the committee on the city's "Rededication Week."

●

JOHN ETTLINGER, former Paramount publicist in Glen Falls, Cal., has transferred to the San Francisco office, replacing BOB VARNEY, resigned.

●

WILLIAM LAWRENCE, who was at one time connected with North Carolina Theatres, has joined Warners office in Charlotte as salesman, replacing FRANK LOWARY.

●

CEDRIC GIBBONS, M-G-M art director, and MRS. GIBBONS will leave Hollywood next Monday for New York.

●

MILES T. EASTMAN has been appointed manager of the Orange (Mass.) Theatre succeeding RICHARD WALLMAN, resigned.

●

G. L. BLAKESLEE, owner of the Grand Theatre, Lander, Wyo., was recently hospitalized in Denver following a heart attack.

●

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, head of Astor Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from a business trip to North Carolina.

●

LOU HOLLEB, manager of the Majestic Theatre, Columbus, O., has returned to his post after recuperating from an operation.

●

BERNARD R. GOODMAN, supervisor of Warner exchanges, has returned to New York from a tour of Southern branches.

●

ALBERT E. SCHILLER, head of Republic branch operations, left here yesterday for Minneapolis.

●

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, flew to Mexico City over the weekend from Hollywood.

●

L. J. LANGLOIS, operator of the Alamo Theatre, New Roads, La., was a recent New Orleans visitor.

●

KENNETH MACKENNA of M-G-M's studio story department will leave here for the Coast on Oct. 17.

●

GEORGE PAL is in San Francisco from Hollywood.

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, is in New York from Hollywood.

●

ROBERT L. LIPPERT, owner of Lippert Theatres and distribution chief for Screen Guild Prod., and AL GRUBSTICK, San Francisco exchange manager, have left San Francisco for a tour of Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland exchanges.

●

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, returned here yesterday from weekend conferences in Boston, and LEFKOWITZ left last night for Buffalo.

●

HENRY L. NEEDLES, Hartford district manager for Warner theatres, has been named theatres' representative on a committee to help the city's physically handicapped in finding employment.

●

HARRY LOEBL of the Warner studio publicity staff, and EVELYN HARDY were married last Saturday in Las Vegas and are honeymooning in Nevada.

●

NAT WOLF has been named a member of the advertising and publicity committee of the Community Fund drive in Cleveland for the third consecutive year.

●

JAMES D. ALBERSE, account executive and copy writer at Donahue and Coe, Inc., has joined the promotion department of Time-Life International.

●

RUTH C. RICHARDSON has resigned from the M-G-M Eastern story department to accompany her husband, DAVID RICHARDSON of *Time* and *Life*, to Germany for three years.

●

SAM and MAURICE BARCK, after a year and half of inactivity in exhibition, have purchased the Moreland Theatre, Cleveland.

●

SAM HORWITZ, assistant manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, has returned to Hartford from a New York vacation.

●

MCDONALD CAREY, Paramount player, will return to the Coast tonight from New York.

●

TED TETZLAFF, RKO Radio director, has arrived here from Hollywood.

●

E. L. SCANLON, vice-president of Vanguard Films, is in town from Hollywood.

●

STEVE BROIDY, president of Allied Artists-Monogram, is in Shreveport, La., from New York.

●

HEDDA HOPPER, Hollywood columnist, is in New York from the Coast.

●

LIZABETH SCOTT, Hal Wallis-Paramount player, is here from the Coast.

O'Sullivan to Make Six Films Annually

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—William J. O'Sullivan, who recently resigned a Republic producership, has formed Variety Pictures Corp. with a capital of $500,000, to make six features annually, independently, and described as "bread and butter" pictures.

Harry Buck in New Post

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 6. — Harry Buck, who left the Minneapolis [illegible]-Fox sales staff recently when [illegible] home office ordered a salesman and 10 other employees cut off the payroll, has joined Don Swartz as salesman at the Independent Film Distributors, and will cover Minnesota.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN BETTY HUTTON 'The PERILS of PAULINE'
IN PERSON MYRON COHEN
Special! BEVERLY TYLER
Extra! HAL LEROY
Plus OTHERS

LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
IN HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Desert Fury"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
in Person "MR TEMPO" DESI ARNAZ And His Orchestra
DULCINA
RUDY CARDENAS
THE 3 NONCHALANTS
Extra MARION HUTTON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART · JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

"Will do your heart good."—Hale, News
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

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WHO

SAID

HOLLYWOOD

IS

SLIPPING ?

PARAMOUNT speaks out.

Irresponsible sources inside and outside our business are assailing Hollywood pictures . . . at the very time when this industry stands at the crossroads, confronted by serious problems affecting its world market.

Paramount, proud of thirty-five full years of helping build American films to worldwide pre-eminence, unhesitatingly challenges the creeping insinuations that an inferior standard of Hollywood films threatens boxoffice solvency.

* * *

All great structures are prey to jealous eyes from outside and termite attacks from within. The giant edifice of American pictures is no exception.

That is why Paramount speaks frankly now to you, the exhibitors, and soon, through a specially produced short subject,* to a majority of the one hundred million customers who buy tickets every week at the American boxoffice.

* * *

Paramount will refute this counterfeit criticism with a full 12-months product announcement documenting beyond question the assertion that

HOLLYWOOD PICTURES TOP THE WORLD

**Free short subject, "Made In The U.S.A.," just completed by Paramount, promotes the prestige of your theatre and the attractions it plays. Book this short now through your Paramount exchange.*

Our country and our industry now face unsatisfactory foreign conditions. We must adapt ourselves to this situation. Hollywood will meet the challenge by proving it excels the world not only in creative talent, but in the managerial ability to adapt itself to meet new conditions on a sound business basis. Paramount will be in the forefront on this score.

* * *

Paramount product for 1947-1948 represents by far the finest entertainment ever offered America or the world market in a single season —the kind of entertainment preferred in America and the world-over.

* * *

Let the prophets of doom deal in empty statement. Paramount speaks in the factual language of great attractions placed before you in finished form for an entire boxoffice year. Because they are rich in the power-to-entertain, you will show them proudly, America will enjoy them enthusiastically, the world will receive them gratefully.

It has long been a truism that there never will be anything wrong with the picture business that good pictures will not correct. Good pictures can not only help stabilize economic factors, but can also silence the petty voices of destructive criticism and shout irrefutable proof that......

HOLLYWOOD PICTURES TOP THE WORLD
and
PARAMOUNT PICTURES ARE HOLLYWOOD'S TOPS

Currently Playing to Record Receipts and Acclaim

"WELCOME STRANGER"
BING CROSBY, JOAN CAULFIELD, BARRY FITZGERALD

"DEAR RUTH"
WILLIAM HOLDEN, JOAN CAULFIELD

"VARIETY GIRL"
WITH 40 STARS

"THE PERILS OF PAULINE"
Color by Technicolor
BETTY HUTTON, JOHN LUND

"DESERT FURY"
Hal Wallis' Production—*Color by Technicolor*
LIZABETH SCOTT, JOHN HODIAK, BURT LANCASTER
with Mary Astor, Wendell Corey

*Coming in 1947 to 1948**

"UNCONQUERED"
GARY COOPER, PAULETTE GODDARD
Cecil B. DeMille's Production
Color by Technicolor—Directed by Cecil B. DeMille

"WHERE THERE'S LIFE"
BOB HOPE and SIGNE HASSO, WILLIAM BENDIX

"DREAM GIRL"
BETTY HUTTON, MACDONALD CAREY
with Patric Knowles, Virginia Field, Walter Abel, Peggy Wood

"THE PALEFACE"
Color by Technicolor
BOB HOPE, JANE RUSSELL

"WHISPERING SMITH"
Color by Technicolor
ALAN LADD, ROBERT PRESTON
with Brenda Marshall, Murvyn Vye, Donald Crisp, William Demarest

"A CONNECTICUT YANKEE"
Color by Technicolor
BING CROSBY
William Bendix, Murvyn Vye, Virginia Field, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Richard Webb

"THE BIG CLOCK"
RAY MILLAND, CHARLES LAUGHTON
with Maureen O'Sullivan, George Macready

"HAZARD"
PAULETTE GODDARD, MACDONALD CAREY

"THE SAINTED SISTERS"
VERONICA LAKE, JOAN CAULFIELD, BARRY FITZGERALD, WILLIAM DEMAREST, STERLING HAYDEN

"WILD HARVEST"
ALAN LADD, DOROTHY LAMOUR, ROBERT PRESTON, LLOYD NOLAN

"ROAD TO RIO"
BING CROSBY, BOB HOPE, DOROTHY LAMOUR

"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"
Color by Technicolor
BING CROSBY, JOAN FONTAINE

"GOLDEN EARRINGS"
RAY MILLAND, MARLENE DIETRICH

"I WALK ALONE"
Hal Wallis' Production
BURT LANCASTER, LIZABETH SCOTT
From Theo. Reeves' play "Beggars Are Coming to Town" Produced on Stage by Oscar Serlin

"A FOREIGN AFFAIR"
JEAN ARTHUR, JOHN LUND, MARLENE DIETRICH

"SAIGON"
ALAN LADD, VERONICA LAKE

"MY OWN TRUE LOVE"
PHYLLIS CALVERT, MELVYN DOUGLAS

"ALBUQUERQUE"
In Cinecolor
RANDOLPH SCOTT, BARBARA BRITTON

"ADVENTURE ISLAND"
In Cinecolor
RORY CALHOUN, RHONDA FLEMING, PAUL KELLY

"SHAGGY"
In Cinecolor
Brenda Joyce, George Nokes, Robert Shayne

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

*Release Dates Subject to Chang

First Round Set For Memphis Tilt

First step in the industry's legal action against Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis censor, challenging the constitutionality of his banning of Hal Roach's "Curley," because it shows white and colored children together, will be made in State Circuit Court, Memphis, the MPA disclosed here yesterday.

The action, which is supported by the MPA and United Artists, will be initially in the form of an application for a writ of *certiorari* which will be made by Roach and U. A., as the film's distributor.

Memphis lawyers in the case are Frank J. Glankler of Canale, Glankler, Loch and Little, for Roach, and Lowell W. Taylor of Taylor, Quick and Watson for UA.

CLU Offers to Support MPA In Memphis Censor Fight

In a letter to Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, the American Civil Liberties Union has offered to support an immediate court test of the ban imposed against Hal Roach's "Curley," by Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis censor.

SOPEG Praises Fight Against Memphis Ban

In a letter to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, has congratulated the industry for its stand against Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis censor, in the banning of Hal Roach's "Curley."

"We agree with the industry's spokesmen when they say racial hate and discrimination have no place in the American way of life, and we will stand with them and fight on this issue whenever and wherever it arises," it was said.

Ascap, Films Cited At Price Hearing

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6.—The Congressional subcommittee on the economic report at its hearings here late last week on increased living costs was asked by Sidney Samuelson, general manager of Allied ITO of Eastern Pennsylvania, to include advanced admission price films and increased theatre music licensing fees in its report to Congress.

With respect to the increased music taxes proposed by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Samuelson asked the subcommittee to request Attorney General Tom Clark to take steps to halt the increase.

5th Enterprise Film Going Through U. A.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Arrangements were concluded here today between Enterprise and United Artists to release "So This Is New York," based on Ring Lardner's "The Big Town," it was announced by Gradwell L. Sears, UA president. It will be the fifth Enterprise film to be released through UA, and will star radio comedian Henry Morgan in his first screen appearance.

The film will be made for Enterprise by Stanley Kramer's newly-formed Screen Plays, Inc., under the direction of Dick Fleischer.

Review

"This Time for Keeps"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Oct. 6

IN the M-G-M manner, this is a lavishly mounted musical in Technicolor, produced by that maestro of musical films, Joseph Pasternak, and with a star-studded cast that might well tax the capacities of the biggest marquees —Esther Williams, Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior, Johnnie Johnston and the rumba king, Xavier Cugat with his band. Industrious heralding of these draw names in mazdas, printer's ink and posters will start the turnstiles turning, and the more than an hour and a half of eye-and-ear treat should keep them coming for any length of run.

In the tradition of many musicals, stage or screen, the plot structure is painfully flimsy. In fact, it is but a potpourri of striking settings, songs running the range from operatic arias by Melchior, to the throaty vocal renderings of Durante's "Inka Dinka Doo," some romancing and plenty of lively music. There is nice romancing between Williams and singer Johnnie Johnston, Cugat's band boys playing "Chiquita Banana" and other hit numbers, and Durante's clowning throughout as the pianist-bodyguard of Esther Williams. In bathing togs and evening gowns, the curvaceous Miss Williams, of course, holds the spotlight at its brightest.

She portrays the swimming star of a spectacular aquacade, admired and sought after by Johnnie Johnston, war veteran and son of a famous operatic tenor, Melchior. When Esther at last falls in love with Johnnie she learns that he is already betrothed to another. He forgets to tell her this, or explain that it is all the result of his match-making parents, so she flees to other parts and tries vainly to forget him. When it is revealed to his father that each is deeply in love with the other, and that a swim star in the family won't hurt his social prestige, he helps bring them together for wedding bells.

Durante is as clownish as ever, although his general high level raucousness is tempered by wistful romantic moments during the story. Cugat gives out with his usual dancy Latin rhythms, even to including a number in which young Tommy Wonder performs some neat ballet gyrations. Melchior sings about five numbers—operatic and popular.

Hit tune of the prodigal feast of song numbers could well be "Sno Wonder," sung by Miss Williams, Johnston and tiny Sharon McManus in a striking sleigh and snow scene, filmed on Mackinac Island off the upper peninsula of Michigan, where the company spent several weeks on location.

Other able cast members include Dame May Whitty, Dick Simmons, Mary Stuart, Ludwig Stossel, Dorothy Porter, who also registers nicely with a song; Holmes Herbert and Nella Walker. Richard Thorpe shows his fine veteran hand as a director by his arrangement of the melange of musical and water scenes in the Gladys Lehman screenplay. For producer Pasternak it is more laurels to add to those he has already gathered.

Running time, 106 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W.J.McG.

Feldman District in U-I-Rank Drive Lead

Western division, headed by C. J. Feldman, has assumed leadership in Universal-International's "Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Sales Drive," which has now completed its 18th week. The Western division replaces the Eastern, headed by Fred Meyers.

The Minneapolis branch, headed by L. J. Miller, is in the lead among the 31 branches, replacing New Haven, headed by Arthur Greenfield. The district headed by M. M. Gottlieb including Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Minneapolis, replaces the district headed by Dave Miller, including Albany, Buffalo and New Haven.

FHE Approves Four Houses, Rejects 23

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—During the week ending Sept. 26, the Federal Housing expeditor approved four theatre projects to cost $74,075 and rejected 23 projects which would have cost $814,324.

The projects include both new theatres and repairs.

Kerman to Coast Meet

Moe Kerman, president of Favorite Film Corp., will leave here Oct. 10 for the Coast, to stop in Chicago for a meeting with the Favorite Midwest franchise holders, and to hold a second meeting with Coast franchise holders on Oct. 17, in Hollywood.

Midstate Amusement In Washington Meet

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Oct. 6.—Managers, assistant managers and officials of Midstate Amusement Corp., met at Pasco to hear S. J. Gregory of Chicago, vice-president and general manager, outline the company's expansion plans and to discuss forthcoming pictures. The meeting opened with a luncheon at the Hotel Pasco, at which awards were presented to managers who won honors in a recent showmanship drive.

Walla Walla theatres were represented by E. B. Sorenson, George Williams, C. E. Claughton, Jr., and Bob Knight. Also attending were F. D. Nessel, E. H. Keys, Ed Hickey and Virginia Oehler of the home office staff, and managers and assistants from the company's theatres in Dayton, Pasco, Kennewick, Richland, Sunnyside, Toppenish and Ellensburg.

Screen Writer, Dies Samuel Hoffenstein,

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Samuel Hoffenstein, 57, screen writer, died here today following a heart attack. His scenarios included "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," "Desire," "The Great Waltz," "Love Me Tonight" and "Miracle Man." Born in Lithuania, Hoffenstein came to this country as a boy, lived in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and after a varied newspaper career he came here 14 years ago as a film writer. He was also a poet of some note.

Para. Uses Zoomar Lens for Series

First Paramount test pictures made with the new Zoomar lens were shown to the press in a demonstration at the home office here yesterday. The $12,500 lens has just been purchased by Paramount, and a Paramount News camera used the lens in covering the world series. Paramount at present has the only completed Zoomar lens for a 35-mm. camera. Newsreel shots of the world series will reach theatres tomorrow.

The new Zoomar lens makes it possible for the camera to catch closeups without moving. Hollywood producers and directors who have seen tests, already foresee the elimination of expensive "dolly props," it was reported.

In the test shots, demonstrated yesterday, horseracing, motorboating, tennis and baseball were shown, along with a meeting of the UN assembly and the Empire State Building. The camera, without moving, was able to reach forward and catch vivid closeups with uninterrupted continuity. At the ball game, the camera easily followed the ball from pitcher to batter, keeping the entire action in dramatic focus.

The lens, which is now being used in television and in 16mm. films are seen as being able to enlarge the possibilities of newsreel operation.

M. H.

Towler and 7 Others Named by Schwalber

Nelson T. Towler, former Atlanta branch manager, has been named sales manager in the Atlanta branch of Eagle Lion, by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and general sales manager.

Also appointed were the following seven salesmen: Gay S. Pinnell, salesman in the Kansas City branch; Carl R. Michel, Milwaukee; Samuel Jack Weiss, Cleveland; Stanley Arnold, Philadelphia; Ernest C. Leeves and Collins Riley, Dallas, and John J. Hill, Boston booker-salesman.

Mrs. Olive Richrath

Funeral services will be held today for Mrs. Olive Richrath, wife of Paul J. Richrath, home office assistant to John P. Byrne, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, at Davis Memorial Chapel, New Rochelle. Mrs. Richrath passed away Saturday evening after an illness of several months. Besides the M-G-M executive, she is survived by a son, Paul B.

Williams' Mother Dies

OXFORD, Miss., Oct. 6.—Funeral services were held in Taylor, Miss., yesterday for Mrs. R. X. Williams, Sr., mother of R. X. Williams, Jr., chairman of the forthcoming Tri-States Theatre Owners convention and owner of the Lyric, here. Mrs. Williams died at her home in Taylor on Saturday.

James Gregory Rites

SHELBY, O., Oct. 6.—Funeral services were held at Olean, N. Y., today for James Gregory, 71, who, before his death at the weekend, operated the State Theatre, here. Ill four months, Gregory is survived by the widow, two sons and two daughters.

Production in New Drop; 10 Films Finish

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — The production index fell off when five new films were started and 10 finished, making the tally 32 pictures shooting, compared with the previous week's 37.

Columbia

Started: "Woman of Tangier," with Adele Jergens, Stephen Dunne, Michael Duane, Ivan Trisault.
Shooting: "The Return of October," "West of Sonora," "The Wreck of the Hesperus," "Blondie's Night Out," "Coroner Creek."

Eagle Lion

Shooting: "Prelude to Night."

M-G-M

Shooting: "B.F.'s Daughter," "Hills of Home," "Luxury Liner," "Homecoming."

Monogram

Shooting: "Panhandle," "Jiggs and Maggie in Society."

Paramount

Finished: "Caged Fury," "The Long Gray Line."
Shooting: "The Paleface."

Republic

Started: "Campus Honeymoon," with Richard Crane, Wilde Twins, Adele Mara, Hal Hackett. "California Firebrand," with Monte Hale, Adrian, Foy Willing and Riders of the Purple Sage.
Finished: "Main Street Kid," "End of the Rainbow."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Miracle of the Bells," "Race Street."
Shooting: "I Remember Mama," "Berlin Express," "Rachel," "Station West," "Joan," "Good Sam."

Screen Guild

Finished: "Law of the Mounties," "Code of the North."

Selznick

Finished: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Started: "Call Northside 777," with James Stewart, Richard Conte, Helen Walker.
Shooting: "The Ballad of Furnace Creek, "The Flaming Age," "The Snake Pit."

Universal-International

Shooting: "A Letter from an Unknown Woman."

Warners

Started: "Winter Meeting," with Bette Davis, Jim Davis, Janis Page, Florence Bates.
Shooting: "Johnny Belinda," "April Showers," "To the Victor," "Christopher Blake."

Independent

Finished: "The War Party" (Argosy).

Denver MPF Elects Gilmour and Hastings

DENVER, Oct. 6.—Charles R. Gilmour has been elected national trustee, and William Hastings has been named permanent chairman of the Denver unit of the Motion Picture Foundation.

Completing the MPF area committee are: A. P. Archer, W. G. Briggs, David Cockrill, Abel Davis, Joseph Dekker, R. J. Garland, Patrick McGee, Frank H. Ricketson, Jr., Gerald Schumm, Fred Zekman, Clarence Chidley, Milas Hurley and Charles Klein.

Cleveland Area Tax Fight Delays Organization Work

CLEVELAND, Oct. 6.—Exhibitor preoccupation with admission tax battles is responsible for the delay here in the organization of a Motion Picture Foundation committee, Martin G. Smith, MPF temporary co-chairman, asserts. Since the State repealed its three per cent admission tax, effective Oct. 1, exhibitors in this area are faced with enactment of local municipal admission taxes of from three per cent to 10 or 20 per cent of gross receipts. Meyer Fine is MPF co-chairman.

$12,000,000 Set for Carrier Expansion

Cloud Wampler, president of Carrier Corp., has acquired title to the huge industrial plant at Syracuse that was built by the Navy in 1942, from the War Assets Administration as a part of Carrier's $12,000,000 expansion program for the manufacture of air conditioning and refrigeration equipment for theatres and other fields.

Banquets Are Out

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Jack Warner, Warner vice-president in charge of production, has ordered writers and producers to eliminate film scenes showing lavish banquets or other extravagant use of food. His order, which follows the announcement of the President's food program, also instructed the studio commissary to observe Truman's program.

'Variety' Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — Bop Hope and George Jessel will be co-masters-of-ceremonies at the Variety Club premiere of Paramount's "Variety Girl" at the Paramount Downtown Theatre here on Wednesday. Proceeds will go to the local tent's fund for establishing a $100,000 boys' club in East Los Angeles.

New Theatre Firm

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 6. — Gorflax Theatres, Inc., has been incorporated to operate theatres in Kings County. Incorporators are: George N. Gorayeb, Wadie Gorayeb and Seymour Flax, all of Brooklyn.

Diener with Greenthal

David E. Diener has joined the copy department of Monroe Greenthal Co., Inc. Formerly associated with Columbia, Republic and United Artists, Diener will specialize in the agency's motion picture accounts.

ANFA Meeting

The Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association, Inc. will hold its annual fall dinner-meeting here tomorrow at the Sheraton Hotel.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Although a few current releases are registering average or better, minus-average returns are the rule at the majority of other houses. Typical Indian summer weather prevailed at the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6-10:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)
EACH DAWN I DIE (WB reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60-65-70-75). Dualed with **BAD MEN OF MISSOURI (WB reissue).** Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,000)
KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **GHOST TOWN RENEGADES (E-L).** Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)
SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50[illegible] fo[illegible] days. Dualed with **BUSH PILOT (S[illegible] Gulid).** Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,[illegible])
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 5 days, 3rd week, following an opening week at the Albee, and a moveover week at the Capitol. Gross: $7,500. (Average, 5 days: $10,000)
WILD HARVEST (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)
WYOMING (Rep.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualed with **HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.).** Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

With two holdovers, business is generally good. Cool fall weather prevailed. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $8,200. (Average: $7,900)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—CAPITAL (2,446) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) on a moveover. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices of 25c-37c: $5,500)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $5,700)
THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,750. (Average: $19,000)
WILD HARVEST (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000)

TORONTO

Again most of Toronto first-runs are playing holdovers this week. Balmy weather was conducive to late-season outdoor activities, so grosses bordered close to average—or less in the case of long engagements. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10:

ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $4,800)
ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,300)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.20) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average at regular prices: $5,000)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $12,200. (Average at regular prices of 20c-35c-40c-60c-78c: $14,200)
GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $14,600)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c 35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,400)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,200)
POSSESSED (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,400. (Average: $14,900)
SINGAPORE (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45cc-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $11,600)

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page 1*)

in during the five days ending Sunday night.

At the Capitol, "Desire Me," with Rose Marie and Gene Krupa in person, is heading for a sound second week's income of $64,000, after drawing $73,000 in an initial stanza. The eighth week of "Life With Father" apparently will provide the Warner with a handsome $30,000. The Paramount figures to realize a healthy $76,000 in the second week of "Desert Fury" and the Desi Arnaz orchestra.

"Down to Earth," with a stage show, is down to an estimated $105,000 in a fourth and final week at the Music Hall, where it will be replaced on Thursday by "Song of Love." "The Outlaw" evidently has plenty of strength left with the fourth week's take at the Broadway likely to hit $47,000. "Fun and Fancy Free" slipped to an estimated $30,000, still good, though, in a second week at the Globe. "Gone With the Wind" is losing ground at the Criterion, which looks for $21,000 in a sixth week. "Green Dolphin Street" will follow there on Oct. 15.

"Ride the Pink Horse" will bow in tomorrow at the Winter Garden, with its predecessor, "Singapore," concluding a second week last night with about $14,000, not too good. At the Astor, "Secret Life of Walter Mitty" is good for $33,000 in an eighth week. "I Know Where I'm Going" continues good at the Sutton, having grossed $9,500, estimated, in a seventh week. The Gotham's reissue combination from Warners, "Each Dawn I Die" and "Badmen of Missouri," seems destined for a nice $10,500 in a third week. The 11th week of "Crossfire" probably will mean about $18,000 to the Rivoli, which is profitable, and the film will continue to Oct. 10, when "Unconquered" will open.

"Magic Town" will make its debut at the Palace today, succeeding "The Long Night," which wound up a third and final week with $14,000, which is about fair. "The Tawney Pipit" still draws well at the Little Carnegie, where $6,500 is apparent for a fifth week. The sixth and final week of "Kiss of Death" should provide the Mayfair with a mild $15,000, and the next is "Nightmare Alley," opening Thursday.

Handles E-L Shipping

ATLANTA, Oct. 6.—Benton Brothers Film Express has taken over physical distribution, here, of Eagle-Lion product. The firm will ship and inspect films at the E-L exchange here.

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NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Hollywood

By WILLIAM McGRATH

Hollywood, Oct. 6

AS head of her own producing company, the Beckworth Corp., Rita Hayworth will start filming in November on the first of two pictures a year which she will make for Columbia under her recently signed seven-year contract with that studio. The tentative title of her initial, self-sponsored production is "Woman Order," a drama of New Orleans during the Civil War years. The story is an original by Virginia Van Upp who will produce, with Charles Vidor as director. The star's last screen appearance was in "The Lady from Shanghai," with Orson Welles.

●

A story idea, submitted by telegraph and dramatizing the Unknown Soldier of World War II, has been purchased by RKO Radio for production as one of the key films on its 1947-48 *release schedule. The working title currently will be "Honored Glory," and the author is Henry Grunwald, a contributing editor of Time and Life magazines.*

●

Columbia has purchased an original, titled, "Genius, Incorporated," as a vehicle for a group of its younger and most promising contract players. . . . Republic has changed the title of "In Old Los Angeles," a drama dealing with the early history of that city, to "Old Los Angeles." Production started Saturday, with Joseph Kane as producer-director. . . . The same studio recently purchased an original, "One Man's Diary," a yarn about an unscrupulous newspaper columnist, for $50,000, reputedly the highest price ever paid by that studio for an original. Paul Yawitz and Manny Seff, well-known Hollywood screen writers, are the authors.

●

Story rights for "La Otra," acclaimed Mexican-produced picture in which Dolores Del Rio stars, have been purchased by Michael Curtiz Productions. The agreement stipulates that the Mexican-Spanish language version will cease showing in Europe when the Curtiz film is released.

●

Carl Krueger Productions announces the start of "The Last Nazi," drama of a German girl under postwar conditions tomorrow at Enterprise Studios. Marta Mitrovich, European actress, has been set for the lead. . . . Monogram producer Sid Luft has purchased an untitled original as the next screen vehicle for the co-starring of Jackie Cooper and Jackie Coogan.

●

The producer-director combination of Leonard Goldstein and George Sherman, at Universal-International, has been assigned to film four pictures on U-I's schedule. . . . Veteran Director John Ford has been elected Commander of the Motion Picture Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. . . . M-G-M announces plans to film the turbulent life story of Emiliano Zapata, Mexican revolutionary, under the title of "Viva Zapata." . . . 20th-Fox has lifted the option of director Elia Kazan for another year.

Reviews

"The Last Round-Up"

(Columbia)

GENE AUTRY, in his first production for Columbia, has carved out a Western that is many a notch above the run-of-the-mill, a nicely balanced affair filled with customary sound and fury, and carefully made to please the trade for which it is designed. Others in the cast are: Jean Heather, Ralph Morgan, Carol Thurston, the Texas Rangers and Gene's horse, Champion.

The plot has some reservation Indians and cattle ranchers stirred up over an impending plan to build an aqueduct over their land. Actually the deal is a good one for them since they are to be given better land for that which is to be appropriated. However, a loan shark confuses the issue to satisfy his own greed, and through connivance, has suspicion fall on Gene's motives. After some gunplay and fisticuffs, Gene exposes the scheme and brings peace to the community.

Pretty Miss Heather, as a school teacher, holds up her slight romantic responsibilities well. There are a number of pleasing songs sung by Gene and the Texas Rangers, including the title song. The screenplay, by Jack Townley and Earle Snell, from a story by the former, finds occasion to have a television show put on so that Gene can get his point over with the Indians. A Gene Autry production. Armand Schaefer produced and John English directed.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Wild Frontier"

(Republic)

IT'S "good-by" to the Red Ryder series and "hello" to a new series of Republic Westerns for cowboy star Allan Lane. Capably directed by Philip Ford, nicely acted all down the line, and crammed with gun-fighting, hard-riding and slug-fests, "The Wild Frontier" augurs well for the new series. Devotees of the type who will see No. 1 very likely will be keeping their eyes peeled for the next.

Albert DeMond's screenplay budges not an inch from the tried-and-true hero-vs.-villain formula. The story is about how marshall "Rocky" Lane discovers that "Saddles" Barton (Jack Holt), ostensibly a respectable citizen, is the "brains" behind a hold-up and killing scourge that has decimated the population of the frontier cattle town of Clayton City. Lane has to hurdle some interference from his misguided brother and see his father killed, but he does a nice job of cleaning up the town with the aid of Black Jack, his stallion; elderly Eddy Waller, and others. Cast also includes Pierre Watkin, John James, Roy Barcroft, Tom London and Sam Flint. Alfred S. Keller's photography has eye-appeal. Gordon Kay was associate producer.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Annual RMA Fall Conclave Oct. 13–16

The annual fall conclave of the Radio Manufacturers Association will be held here at the Hotel Roosevelt on Oct. 13-16.

Final plans for observance of National Radio Week, Oct. 26-Nov. 1, in which the nation's broadcasters will participate as co-sponsors, will be presented to the RMA board of directors following a meeting of its advertising committee.

The board meeting, to be presided over by RMA president Max F. Balcom, of Emporium, Pa., will highlight a series of committee and group meetings. The RMA directors will meet on Oct. 15 at the new headquarters of the Institute of Radio Engineers here.

Show New Recorder

An introductory showing of the new Magnesonic recorder and reproducer will be held by Sound Recorder and Reproducer Corp. at the Hotel Pennsylvania here, Oct. 14. The instrument is said to take full advantage of the possibilities of magnetic tape recording and reproduction.

"Magic Town" Premiere

"Magic Town," with which Robert Riskin makes his bow as an independent producer, will have its New York premiere at the RKO Palace Theatre today. Distributed by RKO Radio, it stars James Stewart and Jane Wyman.

Wolf May Sell His Classics Franchise

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 6.—Offer of Joe Wolf to sell his Minneapolis Film Classics franchise to the parent company is now under the consideration of Joseph Bernhard, FC president, and the board of directors, it was learned here today.

Before leaving for Chicago to attend a sales meet of Screen Guild, Wolf refused to reveal details of his offer to sell the franchise, but said he would not be "surprised" if the deal is consummated at an early date.

Columbia Net

(Continued from page 1)

outstanding on June 30, 1947. The number of shares outstanding on June 30, 1947, was 637,352, and the number of shares on June 30, 1946, was 610,349.

The estimated operating profit for the 52 weeks ended in June, 1947, was $5,807,000, compared to $7,000,000 for the comparable period in 1946. Estimated provision for Federal taxes for the 1947 period was $2,100,000, compared to $3,550,000 for 1946.

'Out of Blue' Premiere

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 6.—Eagle Lion's "Out of the Blue," starring George Brent and Virginia Mayo, will have its world premiere at the Joy Theatre, here on Oct. 8, with a large-scale pre-opening promotion program.

Short Subject

"The 49th State"

(This Is America-RKO Radio)

Latest in the This Is America series is a delightful vicarious journey through modern Hawaii, combined with sundry facts on the question of that territory's admission into the Union. The islands are shown as a mature industrial and agricultural area which, nonetheless, must wear political "short pants" by virtue of their lack of statehood. The territory ships more fish and pineapple than many countries, its sugar industry is one of the largest in the world, it pays more Federal taxes than 14 states of the U. S. combined, and it is one of the world's greatest tourist paradises. Both camera and narrator tell the story eloquently. Jay Bonafield's production should be a strong program item. Running time, 16 minutes.

20th-Fox Meet

(Continued from page 1)

company sales executives on the business outlook for the new year.

Specifically, the agenda calls for discussion of plans for "Captain from Castile," "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Daisy Kenyon," in addition to a report on "Forever Amber" which will be in national release during the meeting. Spyros P. Skouras, president, will present the 1948 product lineup, including the Sir Alexander Korda productions to be released domestically by 20th Century-Fox.

Advertising and publicity plans for the new year will be presented by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity, while Clarence Hill, manager of branch operations, will discuss exchange policies. An outline of short subject plans will be given by Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager.

Division managers to attend the meeting will include: Raymond E. Moon, Northeast division; Howard G. Minsky, Mideast; Harry G. Ballance, Southern; J. H. Lorentz, Central; Herman Wobber, Western, and Sydney Samson, Canadian division.

Besides those mentioned above, other home office executives to attend will be: William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith, and Morris Caplan, statistical aide to Smith.

UA Independents

(Continued from page 1)

properties with the cost of production being the determining factor, particularly on shooting time.

That UA has its own borrowing program near completion was indicated by Kelly who remarked that the company's decision on the purchase of a number of RKO Radio features will be made within the next 10 days. While a deal has yet to be fully set, UA already has "chosen" four films from RKO's inventory and may take others, he said. Original reports had it that UA was interested in buying outright seven RKO features at a cost of $9,000,000.

Danes Lose More as Swedes Cancel Films

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 6.—The Association of Swedish Film Producers has decided to discontinue all Swedish films in Denmark because of currency restrictions imposed by the Danish government on the import of foreign films. .

"Our decision means that we take the same stand in this matter as American film companies," the president of the association, Dr. Carl Dym[illegible] said, adding: "We find those re[illegible]ctions both unjust and unpractical."

MPA Board Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

the British confiscatory film *ad valorem* tax.

The board meeting is being held here because Johnston still has not completely recovered from a recent attack of bursitis for which he received hospital treatment. A similar meeting was held here last month.

Johnston Asks for Data on CEA Heads

LONDON, Oct. 6.—At the request of Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, Fayette Allport, MPA representative here, is preparing for Johnston's use a dossier on the backgrounds of W. R. Fuller and B. T. Davis, general secretary and president, respectively, of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, who are scheduled to leave here this week by plane for Washington to confer with the MPA chief on the British *ad valorem* tax impasse. Allport will also send to Johnston a history of the CEA.

Australia Relieved

(*Continued from page* 1)

tralian government's plan and that, therefore, film supplies might be cut off. The agreement provides for the limitation of remittances of current income to 70 per cent. Earnings in excess of 70 per cent can be invested in Australia in local production, payment of capital debts, improvements, employes' pension funds, real estate, in government securities and in loans to theatre corporations.

In Canberra, seat of the Australian government, it was reported that the plan will result in an investment of $2,031,250 a year in Australia. Total annual earnings of U. S. films in Australia have been estimated at $6,500,000.

Nelson Loan Request

(*Continued from page* 1)

recently and did see Goodloe, but they discussed several different matters."

There is even considerable doubt here whether RFC would lend money to the independents if a formal request were made. It has lent money only once or twice to film companies. For example, a loan was made several years ago to the Hal Roach Studio, according to one RFC official.

However, under the Act of Congress passed last June, the lending powers of RFC have been sharply curtailed. It must now whittle down operations to reduce its total loans outstanding to only $2,000,000,000, as contrasted with its peak of $16,000,000,000. Thus, it will be very difficult to obtain new loans from the agency.

'Individual Action' on Danish Tax: SIMPP

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Although the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will take no concerted action on Denmark's recent currency import restrictions against films, the indication today, following a report by SIMPP president Donald Nelson, was that member-producers do not look with favor on the prospect of continuing shipments to Denmark. The producers were advised to be guided by their own interpretations and wishes in the matter.

Nelson, who also reported on the British situation, said that an invitation from Sir Wilfrid Eadie to come to London for discussion of the British *ad valorem* tax on films, with a view to possible modification of the levy, has been received, but Nelson indicated that the trip probably will not be made before November.

IA on T-H Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

National Labor Relations Board have held that operators and stage employes working in theatres were not embraced by the National Labor Relations Act.

If the IA position is correct, its locals would not be required to file non-communist affidavits, financial reports or to comply with other provisions of the Taft-Hartley law. The locals, presumably, also would be free to engage in secondary strikes or boycotts in support of striking IA unions in Hollywood, for example, whereas the Taft-Hartley law prohibits such secondary action by unions to which the law is applicable.

The IA letter received by the locals points out that "No decisions have yet been rendered under the new law to define its meaning in various aspects and to clarify the scope of its applicability. In the absence of any such decisions," the letter continues, "it is the position of the Alliance that local unions in the exhibition field are not covered by the Taft-Hartley law, and unless and until there is an appropriate determination to the contrary, the Alliance intends to continue to maintain that policy."

'Ads' in Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

(UI), a Greyhound bus is prominently shown, and when Robert Montgomery buys chewing gum, a Wrigley's Spearmint wrapper is displayed. In 'Gangster' (Mono.), Chesterfield cigarettes, Seven Up, Gruen watches and Coca Cola are shown throughout the picture.

"The screen is one of the most effective advertising media . . . and these 'plugs' drive home a powerful sales message to your patrons. Large concerns know its value and are willing to pay large sums to sell their products to the relaxed patron. Exhibitors are through having their valuable screen time misappropriated and getting no return for it."

The bulletin also observes: "If producer fees paid to ASCAP do not include the right of the theatre to play the picture without payment of additional fees, then by the same reasoning we cannot see why monies collected by producers for advertising should waive the exhibitor's right to again collect from the advertiser for exhibition of the film in his particular theatre."

Coast Labor Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Chicago meeting, attended by the heads of the international unions including the IATSE and the carpenters, to discuss means of settling the jurisdictional tangle.

Among those scheduled to attend tomorrow's first meeting are Richard F. Walsh, international president of the "IA," and William Hutcheson, president of the carpenters.

It has been estimated that since the strike began more than a year ago, it has entailed a loss of $17,500,000 in wages. More than 3,500 workers walked out at that time. Various efforts have been made to settle the conflict, including rulings by special AFL committees and investigations by a Congressional committee.

Producers' Representatives Leave for Parley on Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — Charles Boren, Y. Frank Freeman, E. J. Mannix and B. B. Kahane, labor representatives for the producers, entrained for San Francisco today to attend the strike-settlement meeting called for tomorrow by the American Federation of Labor with the presidents of disputant unions in the studio jurisdictional strife. The producers' representatives declined comment as they left.

AFL Gets Passes to Theatres

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 6.—Delegates from theatrical unions to the convention of the American Federation of Labor, now open here, will attend local theatres on courtesy passes, as a result of the adoption of a proposal by the California Theatre Association.

Musicians to Meet On Standby Clause

A meeting here between officials of Local No. 802, American Federation of Musicians, and representatives of the Capitol, Paramount and Strand theatres, to discuss the question of standby clauses under the Taft-Hartley act, has been tentatively set for tomorrow.

The union contends that the current contract, which runs until next Labor Day, should be valid as far as its standby clauses are concerned.

NCA Joins Attack

(*Continued from page* 1)

American film production, "a smoke screen" to exact 60-70 per cent rentals on roadshows, Berger declares that if exhibitors do not show a solid front against this sort of sales policy "they will find that every top picture of every producer will be sold at roadshow prices and on similar terms," adding "if that ever happens, look around for another line of business."

Berger's "plea" to NCA members avoids outright condemnation of roadshowing outstanding pictures, but stresses the exhibitor's rights to "at least half the receipts."

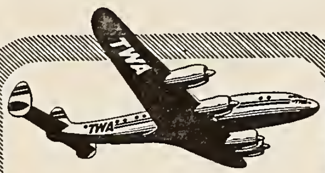
Revere Resigns Film Post

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Anne Revere has resigned as treasurer of the Screen Actors Guild and Olivia de Havilland has been named by the board to fill her unexpired term. Miss de Havilland will stand for re-election as treasurer in November, when Miss Revere's term of office expires.

First Theatre in Taft-Hartley Case

Hartford, Oct. 6. — The National Labor Relations Board's regional office here has received its first case under the Taft-Hartley Law in which an employer charges a union with unfair labor practices.

Ted Harris, manager of the State Theatre, Hartford, revealed that the dispute involves his theatre and the Hartford local of the American Federation of Musicians, which, according to the complaint, sought payment for services not rendered.



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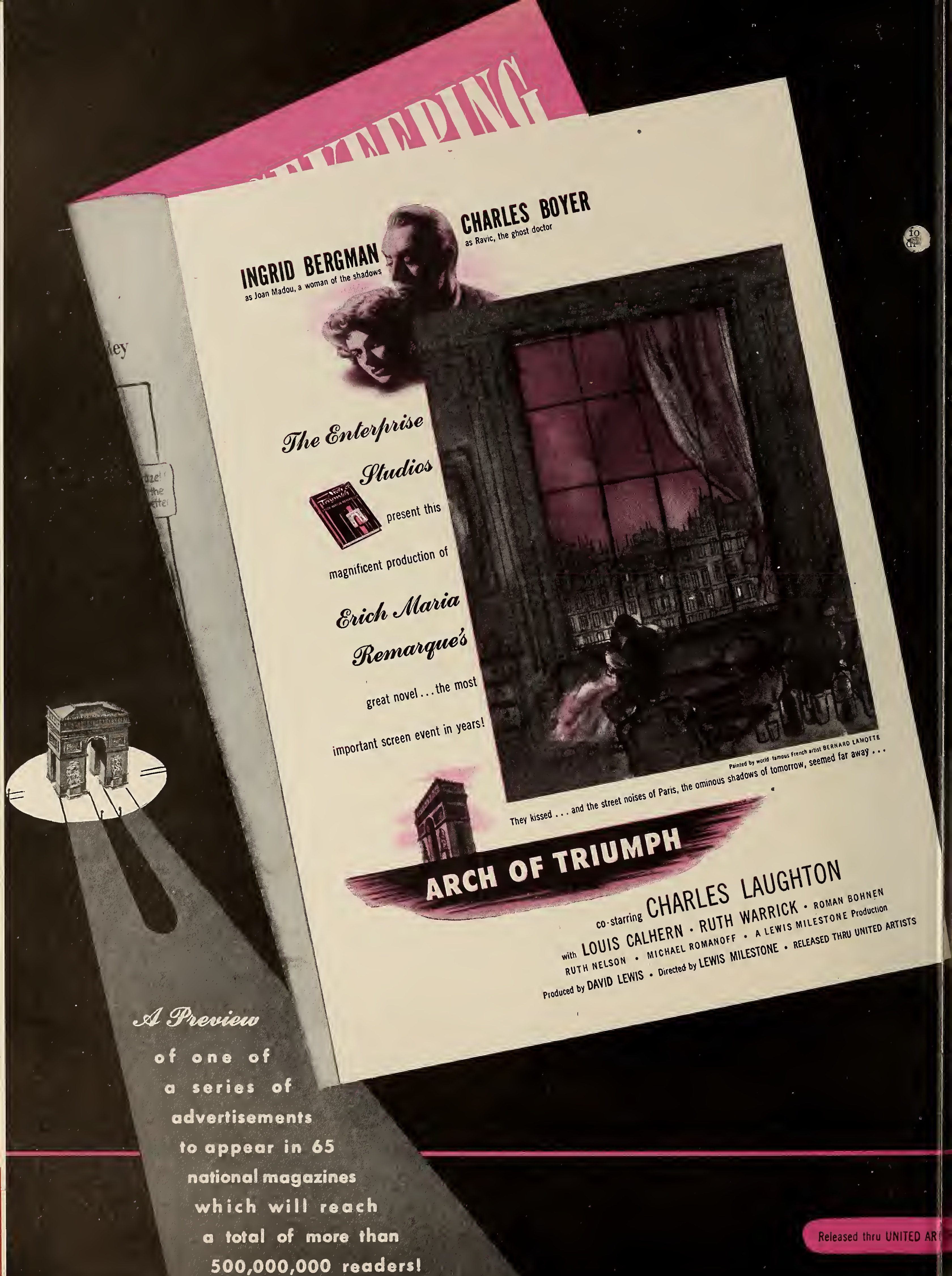

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AFL Move for Studio Peace Fails on Coast

End to Studio Strife Now Hinges on Oct. 20 Parley

San Francisco, Oct. 7.—Jurisdictional troubles among Hollywood set unions remained *status quo* today, despite attempts by the American Federation of Labor's executive council to iron out the dispute, when William L. Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters' union, broke up the meeting after a two-and-a-half hour session by refusing all offers by Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, for a settlement.

While the executive council, here for AFL convention, instructed the two groups to attempt a solution in

(Continued on page 6)

Industry Earned 264 Millions in '44

Washington, Oct. 7.—The film industry's net income for 1944—latest year to be reported—amounted to $264,141,000; according to figures released today by the Treasury Department.

This was based on gross receipts of $1,458,299,000 earned by 3,868 corporations reporting income taxes. The figures exclude any unincorporated firms in production and distribution, but does take in theatres.

The companies paid a total of $35,430,000 in Federal taxes and wrote off depreciation of $29,262,000. Cost of operations for the year was $767,757,000, and stockholders received $61,219,000 in cash dividends, plus another

(Continued on page 7)

Film Deal Up to UA, RKO Boards

Deal for purchase by United Artists of four to seven features from RKO Radio to ease a product shortage which threatens the former next spring, is scheduled to go to the boards of directors of both companies for approval next week.

The UA board is scheduled to meet here next Tuesday to consider the

(Continued on page 7)

Hollywood Can Slash Costs 50%: Roach

If film profits should drop to the point where drastic action is warranted, Hollywood production costs could easily be cut as much as 50 per cent, producer Hal Roach said here yesterday, citing the salaries of stars, writers, directors and producers as costs which could well stand "the axe."

Cut these salaries by 50 per cent, he maintains, and those involved would "still be getting 20 times more than can be gotten in any other industry."

But the British *ad valorem* tax situation — current "big threat" to American film profits—may not remain a threat for long, Roach believes. His reasoning is that actually we "haven't lost the British film market, for, although governments can pass laws, the life of the laws depends on how popular those laws are with the public."

Citing the Italian situation of a few

(Continued on page 6)

Roach Wins Court Review in Memphis

Memphis, Oct. 7.—Hal Roach, producer of "Curley," which was banned from exhibition here by Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis censor, today won the first round of his fight challenging the constitutionality of the ban when

(Continued on page 6)

Pathe News Deals Unenforceable: NCA

Minneapolis, Oct. 7.—Contracts in effect with RKO Radio for the RKO Pathe newsreel are not enforceable by Warners since the latter absorbed the subject and is issuing it as Warner Pathe News, North Central Allied is advising members.

Stanley Kane, NCA executive director, discloses in a bulletin that a Warner salesman agreed to cancel the existing RKO News contract for a member of the exhibitor unit after being advised of the legal opinion given by NCA.

NJ Allied Beckons To ITOA Members

While the matter of affiliation with Allied States by New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association continues dormant a year after having been proposed, it is reliably reported that Allied's New Jersey unit is quietly trying to lure into its fold some 40-odd ITOA members located in New Jersey.

That New Jersey exhibitors happen to be with the New York group stems from the fact that a large part of New Jersey is serviced through New York exchanges and is a part of the New York Metropolitan area.

It is understood that Allied of New Jersey is pointing up the fact that while the ITOA has the support of New Jersey members, the latter share in the benefits on local Jersey issues obtained by Jersey Allied.

Fuller Asks For US Fact-Finding Group

Wants Commission in UK While He Is Over Here

London, Oct. 7.—W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, proposes that the American industry forthwith send to London a fact-finding commission to examine the situation in case certain eventualities result from his forthcoming discussions in Washington with Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president. He is scheduled to fly to the U. S. on Thursday.

The fact-finding commission, said Fuller, who will be accompanied by CEA president B. T. Davis, could not only examine the general situation here but would be in a position to

(Continued on page 6)

Quota in Argentina Formally Made Law

Washington, Oct. 7.—Argentina has formalized by law its regulation requiring that domestic films be shown part of the time in all theatres of the country, in order to help the Argentine film industry.

The law, as received here by the U. S. Department of Commerce, pro-

(Continued on page 6)

Name 20th-Fox in First Decree Violation Case

First legal action to be instituted by an exhibitor charging a distributor (20th Century-Fox) with violating terms of the New York Federal Court's decree of last December will be argued before Federal Court Judge John Bright here within the next few days.

The case, originally set to be argued yesterday, but postponed by Bright, involves New Salinas Theatres, Inc., operating the Vogue in Salinas, Cal. The plaintiff asks that 20th-Fox and its subsidiary, National Theatres, be adjudged in civil con-

(Continued on page 7)

Plans All Set for "Show of Shows"

All details of the publicizing and promotion of the "Show of Shows," which the combined branches of the amusement industry will put on at Madison Square Garden on Thursday evening, Oct. 30 in aid of the Institute of Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine, have been arranged.

Harry Mandel, national director of publicity-advertising of RKO Theatres, who is publicity chairman for the entertainment, will be aided by

(Continued on page 7)

Bolivia Allows Fund For Imported Films

Washington, Oct. 7.—Funds at the legal rate of exchange have been made available to film distributors in Bolivia to pay for films imported, mainly from the U. S. This was the deal whereby the government there ended the recent strike of distributors which

(Continued on page 6)

4 Reviews Today

"Railroaded" and "Blonde Savage" are reviewed on page 5; "The Girl of the Canal" and "Farewell, My Beautiful Naples," on page 7.

Home Offices Will Close on Monday

Company home offices here which will be closed all day on Monday, Oct. 13, in observance of Columbus Day, which this year falls on Sunday, include Warners, Paramount, United Artists, RKO Radio, Monogram, M-G-M, Eagle-Lion and 20th Century-Fox. The Motion Picture Association office here will also be closed all day.

Universal-International's home office will be closed only a half-day due to operational delays brought about by its moving recently. Republic, as of yesterday, appeared to have decided to remain open all day.

Swirbul, Heine to Republic Board

L. A. Swirbul and Carl B. Heine have been elected to the board of directors of Republic Pictures. Swirbul is president of Grumann Aircraft Engineering Corp. and has been affiliated with that company for the past 18 years. Heine, retired realtor, was a member of the board of Setay Co., Inc. He has also been a director of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc.

Resignations from Republic's board have been accepted from Charles T. Fisher, Jr., Thomas F. Brown, William M. Collins, Jr., Harry M. Goetz and Samuel Becker. Three more new directors will be elected at a later date.

DuPont Raw Stock Prices Increased

Wilmington, Del., Oct. 7.—The Photo Products Division of E. I. DuPont DeNemours today effected a price increase on certain types of motion picture film.

Products affected at this time are the so-called special-use 35mm. prerelease positive types, fine-grain sound recording, master positive and tinted release stock.

Patton and Turner Promoted by Altec

L. J. (Pat) Patton has been transferred from the district managership of Altec Service's Atlanta office to the engineering division in New York.

D. L. Turner, Altec branch manager in Atlanta, has been named district manager there.

MPA-King Luncheon

Sir Alexander King, Scottish exhibitor who is visiting the U. S., will be guest at a Motion Picture Association-sponsored luncheon today at the "21" Club, here. Company presidents, foreign managers, MPA executives, former Cinematograph Exhibitors Association president Sir Sidney Clift, and Gaumont-British managing director Mark Ostrer will attend. Sir Sidney and Ostrer are also visiting here from England.

Personal Mention

PAT CASEY is scheduled to leave for the Coast today following a New York and Washington visit.

◆

A. S. Clark, Jr., has been named manager of the Canton Theatre, Canton, Ga., while Arthur R. Broome, formerly with National Screen Service in Charlotte, has been appointed manager of the Princess Theatre, Hawkinsville, Ga.

◆

Eddie Phillips, Warner exchange office manager in Philadelphia, has just received a distinguished service medal from the War Department for service with the Army of Occupation in World War I.

◆

John Marsh, a member of the Columbus, O., Variety Club, and Mrs. Marsh, former publicity manager of RKO theatres in that city, are parents of a son.

◆

Rudy Berger, M-G-M Southern sales manager, is back at his New Orleans headquarters after a trip to Dallas.

◆

Marilyn Sable, secretary to Christy Wilbert at 20th Century-Fox, here, has announced her engagement to Ernest Einiger.

◆

John Barcroft, publicity manager for RKO theatres, Columbus, O., is back at his post following hospital treatment.

◆

Lou Holleb, manager of the Majestic Theatre, Columbus, O., has returned to his desk following an operation.

◆

Emile J. Oulette has been named manager of the Adams Theatre, Adams, Mass., succeeding Albert F. Windstrom, resigned.

◆

Sam Shirley, special M-G-M home office representative, will leave Los Angeles on Sunday for New York.

◆

Anne Jeffreys, RKO Radio player, will be the guest of the Carolinas Christmas Festival in Charlotte, on Nov. 12.

◆

Louis B. Mayer, head of M-G-M production, is due here from Hollywood on Oct. 20.

◆

Irwin Margulies of M-G-M's legal department has returned here from the Coast.

◆

Arthur Hornblow, Jr. and his wife will fly back to the Coast from New York on Sunday.

◆

Victor Saville left here yesterday for Boston before heading back to Hollywood.

◆

Clair Jamison has been appointed assistant manager at the Colonial Theatre, Hartford.

◆

Edwin J. Fedeli has been appointed manager of the Rialto Theatre, Worcester, Mass.

G. S. EYSSELL, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

◆

Brice Ruark, assistant manager of the Town Theatre, Baltimore, has been transferred to the same post at the Hippodrome, with Lou Fenwick succeeding him at the Town and Frank Talbot joining the Little Theatre executive staff.

◆

Harold Allred of Lancaster, S. C., has taken over as manager of the Carolina Theatre, Spindale, N. C., succeeding Horace Yelton, resigned.

◆

John Silverwatch has been named manager of E. M. Loew's Court Square Theatre, Springfield, Mass., succeeding Eddie Harrison, resigned.

◆

Edward McCormick has been named assistant manager of the Music Box Theatre, New Britain, Conn., replacing Herman Doucette, resigned.

◆

David Miller, Universal-International district manager, and Joseph Gins, Buffalo manager, were in Albany, N. Y., yesterday.

◆

J. J. Spandau, former manager of Universal-International's Buffalo exchange, has been transferred to the Syracuse district as salesman.

◆

Gregory Vojae, Columbia office manager in Atlanta, has returned to that city from Boston and Philadelphia.

◆

J. H. Thompson, president of Martin and Thompson circuit, Hawkinsville, Ga., has returned there from Washington.

◆

Jack Alicoate, Eagle Lion trade press contact, will be married in January to Virginia Freeland.

◆

John Jenkins of Astor Pictures in Dallas visited William Richardson of Astor in Atlanta last week.

◆

R. J. Ingram, Columbia Southern district manager, has returned to Atlanta from Charlotte.

◆

H. C. Kaufman, Columbia manager of branch operations, was in Atlanta last week from New York.

◆

Esther Ives has taken over the Shelby Theatre, Shelby, Ia., from R. L. Johnson of Logan, Ia.

◆

Frank Lowry has resigned from the Warner staff in Charlotte to enter another business in that city.

◆

Bill Sirica of the Lido Theatre, Waterbury, Conn., and Mrs. Sirica are parents of a daughter.

◆

George Brow, Jr., of Loew's Poli Strand, Waterbury, Conn., and Mrs. Brow are parents of a son.

◆

Howard Hill is the new assistant manager at E. M. Loew's Hartford Drive-in, Newington, Conn.

Newsreel Parade

BASEBALL was the order of the day for the newsreels as the Yankees won the world series. A close runner-up for newsreel attention was football, which appeared in four of the five reels.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 12—Yankees win the world series; highlights of the games. Pigskin parade; Michigan 49, Stanford 13; Texas 34, North Carolina 0; Notre Dame 40, Pittsburgh 6.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 210—Film[illegible] the world series as the Yankees win. [illegible]ball thrillers of the week.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 13—Football: Notre Dame gets going. Yanks win the world series.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 80 — Yanks win; highlights of the world series. Georgia Tech routes Tulane, 20-0; Michigan trounces Stanford.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 15 — Yankees win the series.

Trial of Washington Anti-Ascap Law Up

Louis D. Frohlich of the New York law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich, counsel for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, will leave here Friday for Olympia, Wash., for a scheduled hearing in State Supreme court there next Tuesday in connection with the Washington anti-Ascap law.

Hearing is on an appeal by Ascap licensees from a lower court ruling that the Society has complied with the state law. If the decision is upheld, Washington theatres and other music users who have not done so since enactment of the law, may be required to obtain licenses from individual copyright owners or be subject to infringement actions.

Kreisler to Europe For Industry Study

B. Bernard Kreisler, former film executive, will sail from here on Friday on the S. S. *Queen Mary* for a four-month study of production, distribution and exhibition in 14 European countries. A report of each country's motion picture industry will be made for the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Kreisler's associations in film executive positions include posts at Universal, Paramount and United Artists-Cowan Productions. During the NRA, Kreisler was impartial Government representative on the motion picture "Blue Eagle" code board in Hollywood.

O'Brien Given Degree

Loretto, Pa., Oct. 7.—An honorary degree of Doctor of Letters has been conferred upon Pat O'Brien by St. Francis College, here. The degree was presented during a ceremony in which O'Brien laid the cornerstone for a national shrine to St. Genesius, patron saint of actors, at the college's centenary celebration. His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman attended. O'Brien recently was made president of the Genesians, the unit of actors and actresses formed to honor St. Genesius.

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From Bosley Crowther's. Article,
N. Y. Times, September 28, 1947

WE'LL give you three guesses (and no fair peeking) as to what picture showing today is doing the most amazing business, [illegible] only in New York but all around. Give up? All right, we'll tell you. It's the oldie, "Gone With the Wind." And if that doesn't strike you as surprising, you are much more blase than we. Now in its fifth week at Loew's Criterion, where it has been steadily packing the house, and doing likewise in other cities, it looks good for one of the "big money" films of the year.

Indeed we are of the opinion that this eagerness for "Gone With the Wind" is occasioned by wide common knowledge that it is full, rich entertainment on the screen. This knowledge, of course, is circulated by those who have seen the film, and it must be a major inducement when one considers most pictures of today. But it is also of large significance that audiences seeing this film are composed in considerable measure of those who have never seen it before. Spot checks of audiences in Loew houses around the country where the epic is now showing have revealed that approximately three-quarters of those seeing it in the afternoons are "first-timers" and that one-quarter of the night audiences (mostly elders) is a pristine crop. In short, between 35 and 40 per cent of the customers today are youngsters (and possibly a few oldsters) who have become moviegoers since the film was last released.

"WHAT PICTURE IS DOING THE MOST AMAZING BUSINESS TODAY?"

asks Bosley Crowther in the N. Y. Times—
and here's his answer:

"GONE WITH THE WIND"

DAVID O. SELZNICK'S PRODUCTION, RELEASED BY M-G-M

★

CLARK GABLE NEVER TIRES OF HOLDING VIVIEN LEIGH!

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509 Theatres In Okla. City Area

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—The Oklahoma City directory of theatres and other phases of the industry in the field is the third in the series of 31 directories to be released by the Motion Picture Association.

There are 509 theatres currently in operation in that territory, with a total seating capacity of 238,828. Slightly under half of these, or some 243 theatres, are located in towns with a population of 2,500 and under. Theatres in this population group have a total seating capacity of 77,269, or an average of 318 seats per theatre.

The first two directories issued to date included Buffalo and New Haven. Each directory is divided into three major sections. The first provides a listing of all theatres by town and population, indicating circuit affiliation (if any), seating capacity, days operated per week and the name of the company or person signing film contracts. The second section contains a listing of all reported circuit theatres according to operating organization, while the last section lists the names and addresses of local exchange offices and personnel.

Brulatour, Inc., Halts New Building Plans

Inflated real estate values and Government restrictions on new construction have combined to cause indefinite postponement by Jules Brulatour, Inc., of moves to increase storage space for Eastman Kodak film in Hollywood, a Brulatour spokesman indicated here yesterday.

Last January, William J. German, Brulatour president, as exclusive distributor of Eastman motion picture film, visited the Coast where he sought to make immediate arrangements to supplement or supplant the company's two warehouses, which have a combined storage capacity of about 50,000,000 feet of raw stock.

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Oklahoma City Exchange Territory Statistical Summary

(As Compiled by the Motion Picture Association)

	Number	Seating Capacity
Theatres in operation*	509	238,828
Closed theatres	16	7,231
Totals	525	246,059

	Number	Seating Capacity
Circuit-operated theatres‡	206	128,944
Non-circuit theatres	319	117,115
Total	525	246,059

Seating capacity of theatres now in operation, according to population groupings:

*Population***	*Towns with Theatres*	*Cumulative Total*	*No. of Theatres Operating*	*Cumulative Total*	*Number of Seats*	*Cumulative Total*	*Average Seats Per Thea*[illegible]
250,000-100,001	2 (Okla. City, Tulsa)	..	56	..	41,135	....	734
50,000- 25,001	1 (Enid)	3	5	61	3,740	44,875	748
25,000- 10,001	17	20	69	130	46,135	91,010	669
10,000- 5,001	22	42	63	193	35,112	126,122	557
5,000- 2,501	35	77	73	266	35,437	161,559	485
2,500 and under	211	288	243	509	77,269	238,828	318

** Excluding three drive-in theatres with a total capacity of 2,250 automobiles.*
‡ A circuit is defined as "four or more" theatres operated by the same management.
*** There are no cities in this exchange territory ranging in population from 50,001-100,000.*

7 More Percentage Suits Are Filed

CLEVELAND, Oct. 7.—Seven major distributors filed percentage suits today in the U. S. District Court, here. Harold Makinson, Frank N. Gaethke and the Park Theatre Co. were named defendants in each of the complaints, brought by Universal, United Artists, Warner Brothers, RKO Radio, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's.

The complaints are similar to those filed in various other Federal Courts throughout the country, each alleging a conspiracy by the defendants in submitting reports of admission receipts derived from the exhibition of percentage pictures.

The theatres involved in this instance are the Lake, Lyric, Park and Pastime in Barberton, O., and the Deuber and McKinley in Canton. Each plaintiff seeks punitive damages in addition to damages claimed in alleged conspiracy.

Luther Day, Thomas M. Harman and John S. Pyke of the Cleveland law firm of Jones, Day, Cockley and Reavis, signed the complaints as attorneys for the plaintiff-distributors. Sargoy and Stein of New York are also of counsel for the plaintiffs.

Two Leave Combine Because of 'Strike'

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 7.—George Rauenhorst, of Fulda, and his son Duane, Slayton, Minn., said they are withdrawing from membership in the Theatre Associates buying combine, after only a few weeks of service.

It is understood their withdrawal was due to the inability to get Paramount and 20th-Fox production, which has not been bought by TA this season due to a disagreement over percentages and other terms and conditions.

Reelect Herman Levy

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 7.—Herman Levy, general counsel of Theatre Owners of America, and a practicing attorney in this city, has been relected secretary of the New Haven County Bar Association.

10 Candidates for Picture Pioneers

Ten additional membership applications will be voted upon by the executive committee of the Picture Pioneers here next week, all of them, upon committee approval, to be initiated at the organization's annual Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 19, at the Hotel Plaza here. Membership requirement is that applicants must have been employed within the industry for 25 years.

The new nominees are: Leonard Anderson, New York; Maurice L. Fleischman, Miami; Leo T. Jones, Upper Sandusky, O.; Harry A. Kridel, Newark; William B. Levy, New York; Jack O'Connell, Toledo; Frank D. Rubel, Miami; Sol A. Schwartz, New York; Mark N. Silver, Philadelphia, and H. A. Spanuth, Chicago.

Screen Guild in 4 Latin Film Deals

Screen Guild Productions, of which William B. Pizor is general manager for foreign distribution, has assigned franchises for its product in the territories of Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela and Argentina-Uruguay-Paraguay, and is at present negotiating similar contracts with prospective franchise holders for Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia and Puerto Rico. Trans-Continental-Films, through J. A. Cordero, president, has obtained the new contracts.

Cinema Lodge Cited

For the second consecutive year, *Cinema Lodge Bulletin*, edited by Milton Livingston of the Universal-International publicity staff, here, has been awarded honorable mention in the B'nai B'rith Lodges and Chapters "Annual Bulletin Contest," among more than 250 entries, Robert M. Weitman, president of the Lodge, discloses.

Siegel's 1st for E-L

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7. — David W. Siegel, independent producer and president of Triumph Pictures, reports that his first picture for Eagle Lion release will be "Mickey," formerly titled "Clementine."

Schwalberg Off On E-L Exchange Tour

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle-Lion, will leave here tonight for Indianapolis on the first leg of a nationwide tour of E-L exchanges during which he will report at each on the production schedule for 1947-48, and also outline policy.

The tour, Schwalberg explained, will give him "the opportunity not only to give every E-L employee the home office and studio angles of our plans, but also will permit me to work with each employee in the branches for maximum effectiveness."

Already completed, he declared, are seven of the 17 "A's" announced for 1947-48, each budgeted at "over $1,000,000." These are: "Out of the Blue," "Love from a Stranger," "Adventures of Casanova," "T-Men," "The Man from Texas," "Northwest Stampede" and "Prelude to Night."

In Indianapolis, Schwalberg will be joined by L. E. (Nicky) Goldhammer, Western sales manager. The two will continue through all 14 branches under Goldhammer's supervision, Indianapolis, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines. Omaha, Salt Lake City, Denver, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

After completion of the Western swing, Schwalberg will go to Oklahoma City, where he will meet Al Suchman, Eastern sales manager, to begin individual branch meetings in the branches in Suchman's territory, in Oklahoma City, Dallas, New Orleans, Memphis, Atlanta, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston, New Haven, and New York.

Schwalberg's tour of the 31 E-L branches is expected to take approximately eight weeks.

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Television Agenda Is Set by SMPE

Theatre television will be discussed in detail, with ample time devoted to open-forum discussion, at the Oct. 21-23 evening sessions of the theatre engineering conference at the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Donald E. Hyndman, in charge of television papers for the conference, a[illegible]nces the following schedule alr[illegible] set: "The Development of Theatre Television in England," by A. G. D. West, past-president, British Kinematograph Society, and director of Cinema-Television, Ltd.; "Activities of the SMPE in Theatre Television," by Paul J. Larsen, chairman of the Society's committee on television; "Large Screen Television," by engineers of RCA; "Some Aspects of Large-Screen Television," by Alfred N. Goldsmith, consulting engineer.

Program Ready for SMPE Meet Oct. 20

Theatre architects, consulting engineers and others in all phases of theatre design, construction, equipment and maintenance will take part in the 10 clinical sessions covering such phases of theatre activity, to be held at the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Tentative program already includes the following papers and speakers on these subjects, besides others:

"Report on Advancement of Theatre Design," by Ben Schlanger; "General Theatre Construction," John McNamara; "Theatre Design and Construction," S. Charles Lee; "Drive-in Theatres," S. Herbert Taylor, consulting engineer; "Foreign Theatre Construction," by Clement Crystal, Paramount Theatres.

These sessions, as well as one on television, all are part of the theatre engineering conference. In addition, there will be a series of daily general technical sessions.

DuMont Starts New Television Planning

Lawrence Phillips, director of DuMont Television Network, has appointed James L. Caddigan of Boston as manager of the web's program planning division.

"Up to now," Phillips said, "each station has undertaken to do its own programming, but stations are coming onto the air so fast and set owners and viewers are both multiplying so rapidly that this individual effort is not adequate to demands."

FCC Sets Hearing

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7. — The Federal Communications Commission has scheduled a hearing for Oct. 13 on its proposed decision to withdraw from the use of television broadcasters a channel they now share with non-government fixed and mobile services.

Correction

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7.—William B. Davidson, the actor, who died, was inadvertently identified as an executive of Redwood Theatres in the report of his death published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 1.

Reviews

"Railroaded"

(Eagle Lion)

MURDER will out, and so it does in "Railroaded," but not before an innocent man is hemmed in by what appears to be air-tight evidence, and not before John Ireland demonstrates that Jimmy Cagney is not the only male actor who can be brutal to women. "Railroaded" with a more crisply-written script and with development of motivation, could have rated as topnotch product. As it is, it is an interesting story, with a fine performance by Ireland as the tough villain, and adequate supporting roles by Sheila Ryan, Hugh Beaumont and Jane Randolph. With proper ballyhoo, it should draw well at the box office.

A policeman is killed when he interrupts a stickup. The killer, Ireland, and his wounded accomplice escape. Before the accomplice is left at a doctor's office, Ireland instructs him to incriminate an innocent man, Ed Kelly. Beaumont, a detective, is assigned to the case, and believes that Kelly is guilty, after listening to the accomplice's deathbed confession.

Beaumont, however, discovers that Ireland, a well-known criminal, is involved, and attempts to win a confession from Ireland's girl friend, Jane Randolph. Ireland kills Miss Randolph, wounds Kelly's sister, Miss Ryan, and is finally killed by Beaumont in an exciting gunfight in a darkened night club.

Charles F. Riesner produced and Anthony Mann directed, from a screenplay by John C. Higgins, based on an original by Gertrude Walker.

Running time, 72 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

"Blonde Savage"

(Eagle-Lion)

ERUDITE reviewers of the metropolitan press will doubtless have a gay time feasting on the implausibilities which are pyramided one atop the other in "Blonde Savage," with the film's basic idea of a beautiful white girl among the diaper-clad natives in the African jungles being far from a likely situation. So consider "Blonde Savage" in the light of what it was meant to be, and is, a show for the action trade first and foremost, and there is plenty of room for it in that market.

Lionel Toll, former trade paper editor and Army officer, turns producer with "Savage" as his first. It looks like he will stay in business, for the film whips up gales of excitement, good for its type, in the course of getting Gordon Bache's original on celluloid.

It has to do with an unscrupulous operator of a diamond mine and his efforts to kill the "blonde savage" whose parents he murdered 21 years ago. A couple of airplane pilots find themselves in the middle of the plot, find the jungle beauty, and romance blossoms.

S. K. Seeley's direction is adequate on all counts, and so are the performances. Leif Erickson and Gale Sherwood are the stars; Veda Ann Borg, Douglas Dumbrille and Frank Jenks have featured spots, and in lesser parts are Matt Willis, Ernest Whitman, Cay Forester, John Dehner and others.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

Guttman Promoted to MACO City Manager

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 7. — Mike Guttman has been promoted by Minnesota Amusement president Harry B. French to be city manager at Aberdeen, S. D., replacing Byron McElligott, who resigned to accept an executive post with a radio station. Guttman previously was manager of the Century here.

Other managerial promotions announced by French, all in Minneapolis, are: Francis Wiggins to the Uptown from the Lyric; Fred Bachman to the Lyric from the Astor; L. A. Brewer from the Loring to the Astor; Ben Rahn to the Loring from the Granada; and Gordon Rydeen from assistant manager at the Uptown to the Granada as manager.

Sign Jackie Robinson

Jackie Robinson, first Negro ever to break into major league baseball and first player to get on base in the World Series just concluded, has been signed to star in a film production tentatively titled "Courage," by executive producer Ben Stoloff and producer Jack Goldberg, who will produce the film for Eagle Lion release. Negotiations are now in progress for Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, to do the opening commentary for the picture.

Lauds Exhibitors

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—David Palfreyman, Motion Picture Association trade relations representative, praised efforts of exhibitors to develop sound public relations in their communities. Palfreyman spoke at a screening of "Power Behind the Nation" before the American Public Relations Association.

Key City Gross

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

"Carnegie Hall" is drawing the heaviest, comparatively, in a spotty Loop. Matinee business is considerably off in all houses with youngsters, back in school and without vacation-job money, conspicuous by their absence. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—GRAND (1,150) (95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.) — ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $11,500)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) — STATE LAKE (2,700) ($1.25) 7th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $30,000).

LURED (UA) — ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c) On stage: Beatrice Kay and Joe Howard, 2nd week. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $40,000)

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio) — WOODS (1,080) (95c) 10th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,500)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and IT'S A JOKE, SON (E-L)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $26,000).

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) On stage: Larry Adler. Gross: $53,000. (Average: $52,000)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $25,500)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 10th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

Albany Gets a 1st-Run

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 7.—Freedman and Orson, new lessees of the Colonial Theatre here, has reopened with a first-run policy of "unusual" films. The French film "Carmen" inaugurated the new policy. William Roseman is manager.

"Birth" Returns

D. W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation," first released in 1915, will return to Broadway Saturday for a special engagement at Brandt's Republic Theatre.

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French Union Raps Producers for Lag

While France contends with the problem of diminishing dollars, with the resultant effect on American film revenue, sharp criticism has been launched against French producers by the French technicians' union, according to a speech by Louis Daquin, secretary of the union, reprinted in *The Cine-Technician,* publication of the British Association of Cine-Technicians, and now reaching here, from London.

Daquin says that in 1946, the French industry produced 94 films, compared with 82 in 1943, and thus it was hoped that the native industry might gradually reach the maximum production figure, which was 122 films in 1938. He points out that production had slowed down to such an extent that French studios were unused and widespread unemployment developed among studio workers.

"The booking of French films is gravely impaired by the fact that too many American films are being shown in French cinemas," Daquin contends. "The great problem is that the French film doesn't get a wide enough sale," he added.

Second Festival of Films in Brussels

Brussels, Oct. 2 (By Airmail)—Although it had been officially decided that the next International Film Festival would not take place in Brussels before 1949, it is learned here that next year will see a second festival in this city. It is said that the one last June was considered such a success that the "Big Five" have decided on Brussels as the place for a 1948 affair.

The desire for a still stronger representation on the European market, in compensation for the recent reverse on the British market, is said here to be the reason underlying this latest move, which is being very favorably received in Belgian circles.

Seek Extension of Canadian Library

Ottawa, Oct. 7. — Recognizing the screen as an all-important medium of communication, the National Film Society, a private non-profit organization, is promoting a campaign to raise $50,000 to build a central film library in Canada.

Initial steps to establish a central library in Canada were taken in 1939 with the Rockefeller Foundation and the British Imperial Trust, said C. G. Cowan, president of the society. Today, this library contains nearly 3,000 titles and the appeal is for funds to maintain the library and its services.

Bolivian Funds

(*Continued from page* 1)

caused a two-week shut-down of theatres in La Paz.

However, no arrangement has been made past the end of this year, so that Hollywood may run into trouble in that country next year. The agreement with the Bolivian Minister of Finance provides that $18,000 monthly be made available for the three distributors there at legal rates, each to get $6,000 monthly for remittances to the U. S.

M. P. Daily Story Stirs London Trade

London, Oct. 7.—When the Oct. 2 issue of *Motion Picture Daily* reached here carrying the detailed exclusive report that Cinematograph Exhibitor Association executives W. R. Fuller and B. T. Davis will visit the U. S. for discussions on the tax impasse with Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, it created a stir in trade circles and engendered widespread discussion.

The story was regarded as helpful in creating a new atmosphere here with respect to the critical film tax situation.

Fuller Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

observe reactions to views conveyed by him in Washington.

A check-up of Government sources has indicated that such a commission would be welcome and that cabinet ministers certainly would be willing to meet the American representatives.

Meanwhile, a British Board of Trade spokesman announced today that the MPA has assured the BOT that there will be no change in American plans to produce here. The Americans, he said, are prepared to maintain production in Britain at the rate contemplated in original plans formulated early this year and on a scale at least equal to that demanded under the present British quota act. No formal American undertaking has been made, but the U. S. Embassy has informed the BOT, the spokesman said, that it will begin shortly.

It is reasonable to assume, the spokesman said, that no renters quota will be included in the forthcoming act, but he declined to comment further on this. He emphasized that the undertaking is a gentleman's agreement and is obviously not binding on the individual distributor who ceases importing films. Although it is not in the agreement, it is assumed that the Americans will produce here films suitable for the world market. The spokesman said that it is unlikely that further studio space will be available here for Americans, but "with reason, the BOT hopes" sufficient space will be allotted. Additionally, he said, the way will be open for American purchase of already completed British productions for fulfillment of the undertaking.

The spokesman agreed that the arrangement is not a complete answer to the tax situation but is essentially an indication of goodwill.

Argentine Quota

(*Continued from page* 1)

vides that theatres in the federal capital's central zone must play domestic features seven days per month, including one Saturday and Sunday. Other theatres must screen home-made product two weeks of every five.

Distributors are allowed a 40 per cent charge on first-runs and a maximum of 35 per cent in other houses. However, if a picture runs more than a week in a subsequent run, the rental percentage shall be only 25 per cent.

Stolen Prints Are Troubling British

London, Oct. 7. — Smuggling of films and other illicit manipulations of prints are keeping agents of the security branch of the Kinematograph Renters Society busy in London, Gibraltar and Malta.

KRS agents recently captured four men in London who were reaping an illicit harvest from films stolen from the Army and Navy entertainment division. Illegal traffic stems from war days, when films were released through negotiations with quasi-official organizations, and at a time when it was impossible to keep track of films.

In Malta, KRS agents discovered an exhibitor who had leased his films to other houses. A similar situation was discovered in Gibraltar, where KRS agents are checking reports that exhibitors are not only trading as under-the-counter film distributors, but that films are being smuggled into Spain.

Renters believe that traffic in stolen film persists within a stone's throw of Wardour Street itself, and are launching investigations to stop the market.

Slash 50%: Roach

(*Continued from page* 1)

years ago, when that government called for as much as 50 per cent of all screening time for Italian films and the exhibitors and the public "revolted," Roach said he foresees British exhibitor and public opinion ultimately winning out in having U. S. films "unshackled" in that country. It may be some time, however, before such opinion resolves itself, Roach said, pointing to "the big backlog" of American product now in England.

Roach foresees an early death for "B" pictures. They are going the way of the old two-reelers and may be replaced by well-made 45-minute features, he believes. The new streamlined theatre program, he said, will consist of a "long" "A" picture, an "A-made" 45-minute film, a newsreel and one or two short subjects. Roach feels that his "Comedy Carnival" pictures, now being released and produced, may set the new "45-minuter" vogue. These are now two individual pictures sold as one and running for a total of about 50 minutes. He may reduce their total running time to 45 minutes, "an ideal running time," concluded Roach.

"Furia" Reception

A reception was held at the Monte Carlo here yesterday upon the occasion of the screening of "Furia," new Italian-language film, and the first presentation of the newly-formed Westport International Films, Inc. "Furia" will be released nationally by Screen Classics after its American premiere on Broadway in November.

Foreign Films Billed

Albany, Oct. 6.—The Colonial Theatre has opened here under the management of Harold Freedman and Samuel Orson. "Carmen" was the opening feature under a policy of both foreign and domestic pictures.

New Mexican House

Mexico City, Oct. 7. — With the opening of the 4,000-seat Cine Mexico, top first-run houses here now number 11.

Memphis Court

(*Continued from page* 1)

Chancery Court granted a writ of *certiorari* ordering court review of the censor's action. Binford blocked exhibition of the film because it depicts white and colored children playing together.

The move by Roach has won the support of the Motion Picture Association and United Artists, distributor of the film. Handling the case are Frank J. Glankler of Canale, Glankler, Loch and Little, for Roach, and Loewell W. Taylor of Taylor, Quick and Watson, for UA.

Case to Go to U. S. Supreme Court If Necessary: Roach

The legal action against Lloyd T. Binford, Memphis censor who banned Hal Roach's "Curley" because it shows white and colored children together, will be pressed, even if ultimately it has to be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court, Roach said here yesterday as attorneys for himself, the Motion Picture Association and United Artists filed a writ of *certiorari* in protest to Binford's action with the State Circuit Court in Memphis.

Roach said the scene in the picture which inspired Binford's action could have been cut out, "but we would hate to set the precedent." If Binford had banned the film without giving a reason, nothing could be done about it, Roach said, "but creating racial hatred in kids is a terrible thing." Because of that and because the right of a child to work in a picture is challenged by Binford the matter has been taken to the courts, Roach said.

AFL Peace Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

the interim, the outlook, according to observers, was pessimistic.

In effect, this means that the talks will now be carried over to Oct. 20 when the unions, producers' representatives and Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of the House Labor subcommittee which recently conducted hearings in Hollywood, meet in Hollywood to discuss settlement.

Prior to today's meeting, Hutcheson attempted to have the IATSE suspended on a technicality involving the clarification order of Aug. 16, 1946, but the move failed because it required a majority of the executive council and two-thirds of the convention for passage.

Roy M. Brewer, international representative of IATSE, said he did not believe the Conference of Studio Unions, with which his union is involved in the studio strife, wants a settlement, but, he added, intervention of more responsible leaders might force a constructive solution.

To Appeal Film Ban

Hollywood, Oct. 7.—Screen Guild Productions will appeal the Virginia Censorship Board's ban of "The Burning Cross" to the Virginia Circuit Court of Appeals, Jack Cartwright, Screen Guild director of advertising-publicity, wired en route here from Washington. The action will be filed by the weekend, charging that the ban was discriminatory and violated freedom of speech.

Ripstein to Produce

Mexico City, Oct. 7. — Alfred Ripstein, Jr., for several years production chief of Filmex, producer-distributor, will undertake production of his own this month.

UA-RKO Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

deal, which was set up by Gradwell L. Sears, president, and which is said to involve $5,000,000 to $7,000,000, depending on the number of features ultimately selected.

It is reported that Sears and Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, approved four features for purchase after screenings in Hollywood during the past week and that a final decision involving another three features may be made prior to the meeting of the two companies' boards.

Sears, who was scheduled to leave the Coast yesterday for New York, is remaining there several additional days to effect the final selections and to further initial arrangements already made for financing their purchase.

It is reported that Sears, Kelly and George Bagnall also have effected new financing arrangements for a number of UA producers who thus will be in a position to resume production in the near future after a period of inactivity due to a shutdown by banks on loans to independent producers, following loss of the British market last August.

The dual arrangements are regarded here as having averted the threatened UA product famine.

Sears Calls Press Conference In Hollywood for Today

Hollywood, Oct. 7.—End to the long drawn-out negotiations by United Artists for purchase of certain completed RKO Radio features was foreshadowed by the announcement today that UA president Gradwell L. Sears will hold a press conference here tomorrow. Sears, who had steadily denied himself to the press during his stay here, expects to return to New York tomorrow night. It is believed that the number and titles of films to be acquired, together with other information pertaining to UA financing of its independent producers and acquisition of additional theatre interests, would be announced at the interview.

"Show of Shows"

(*Continued from page 1*)

Nick John Matsoukas, special events; John A. Cassidy and Bill Tell, press; Ernest Emerling, advertising counsel; Lillian Jenkins, sports; Sigmund Gottlober, foreign press; Irving Zussman and Gertrude Bayne, columns; Sam Shain, trades; Harry Ackerman and Robert Masson, radio and television; Ira Morais, exploitation; Herman Barnett, art; Joseph P. Murphy, coordinator.

Industry Earned

(*Continued from page 1*)

$392,000 in stock of their respective corporations.

A breakdown shows that theatres had a net income of $152,495,000, while the production end earned $116,549,000. Production paid $58,780,000 in Federal taxes, and exhibition paid out $88,198,000. Production dividends amounted to $27,703,000, and those of theatres were $34,347,000.

RCA Video Clinic

Camden, Oct. 7. — Broadcast engineers from radio networks and independent stations throughout the U. S. have concluded participation in an RCA television engineering clinic.

Reviews

"The Girl of the Canal"

(*Bell Pictures*)

SOME superbly realistic characterizations emerge from "The Girl of the Canal," a 48-minute British importation, made at Ealing Studios. Otherwise it is a leisurely-paced affair, somewhat lacking in dramatic intensity by American standards, and unfolding almost like a documentary.

The film shows the way of life of British barge folk whose homes are the canals. Their daily routine and age-old customs unfold with interest as the drama runs its course. Interwoven is a love story between a boy who has tired of restrictive canal life, and a girl who clings to the old traditions.

Some rare canal and countryside scenes are a highlight of the drama. There is a natural warmth and simplicity to Jenny Laird, who plays the part of the girl. Flawless performances are given by Bill Blewett, May Hallatt and Robert Griffith, as the father, mother, and boy, respectively. The Michael Balcon production is to be commended for its note of authenticity. Charles Crichton directed, from a screenplay by Stephen Black. Musical background is provided by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, under Ernest Irving's direction.

Running time, 48 minutes. General audience classification. Set for October release.

Mandel Herbstman

"Farewell, My Beautiful Naples"

(*Saturnia Film Distributing Corp.*)

A GOOD deal of lilting Italian songs and some beautiful scenery of Naples, Amalfi and Capri are the pleasant things about the Italian picture, "Farewell, My Beautiful Naples." It is otherwise a prolonged tale of tears and tantrums, with exaggerated emotionalism giving it an operatic effect at times.

The story is about a musical composer who falls in love with a touring American heiress. But in the meantime, a popular stage singer has fallen in love with the composer. It all turns out very sadly, for the composer does not love the singer, and as for the heiress, he is kept from her because of the difference in their financial status.

The composer is played by Fosco Giacchetti, with Vera Carmi the American girl and Clelia Matania as the songstress. Produced by Ideal Films, Mario Bonnard directed. It has English subtitles.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for October release.

M. H.

Raftery to Bank Board

Edward C. Raftery, former president of United Artists, was named a member of the advisory board of the Chemical Bank and Trust Co., Times Square branch, at a luncheon meeting yesterday at the Astor Hotel. Raftery is senior partner in the law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery and Lawler, which represents UA in legal dealings. Other members of the advisory board are Robert Goelet, chairman; Adolph Zukor, vice chairman; General John Reed Kilpatrick, Robert Dowling, Messmore Kendall, Stanton Griffis, E. Claude Mills and Meredith Wood.

Name 20th-Fox

(*Continued from page 1*)

tempt on the grounds that the defendants opened a new theatre, the Alisal, in Salinas, on April 10, 1947, whereas the court's decree, promulgated on Dec. 31, 1946, set forth as illegal theatre expansion of the kind without court approval.

The plaintiff further charges that National has begun construction of another theatre in Watsonville, Cal., but admits that apparently work on this has been abandoned. Additionally, the plaintiff concedes that construction of the theatre principally in question, the Vogue, had begun before the hearings preliminary to the decree.

Lamont Drive-In Burns

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 7.—Fire badly damaged the Leeds drive-in, operated by Harry Lamont for the last three seasons in the Catskill Mountains. Lamont also conducts drive-ins at Lake George and Middletown, plus regular theatres at Greenville, Philmont and Woodstock.

Puciato to Realart As Exchange Head

Carroll Puciato has been named office manager and head of exchange operations of Realart Pictures, by Joseph Harris, treasurer and board chairman.

Puciato was previously with PRC in charge of purchasing, labor relations, and special sales. He entered the industry from the public accounting field, through United Artists, later joining Gaumont British as comptroller. Following GB, he joined Universal's foreign department, resigning to go with the British Information Service during the war.

Tops Variety Benefits

Minneapolis, Oct. 7. — Northwest Variety Club's $18,500 gross for the special charity engagement of "Variety Girl" at the Radio City Theatre, is tops for the nation, John Branton, Variety chief barker, reports. Only Toronto, which embraced all of Canada in the charity show, topped the Minneapolis gross, Branton said.

NBC Progressing in Network Television

Further plans in the development of National Broadcasting's television network are outlined by William S. Hedges, vice-president in charge of planning and development, who said that early this fall station WBAL-TV, Baltimore, would be added to the network, and within the next several months service will be extended to Boston. In addition, he said, work has already started on an NBC transmitter atop Mount Wilson to service the Los Angeles area, construction permits are in hand for stations in Chicago and Cleveland, and plans are going forward for intermediate stations between New York Chicago and beyond.

A new microwave relay station between WNBT here and General Electric's station in Schenectady, he said, will provide a service "comparable to that furnished by NBC to other points along the Eastern seaboard." He referred to the existing NBC television network comprised of WNBT, WPTZ in Philadelphia, and WNBW, Washington.

Form RCA Sound Unit

Cincinnati, Oct. 7.—Midwest Sound Equipment has been formed here to distribute and service RCA sound equipment by H. B. Snook, who is president of Midwest. R. H. Stimpert, formerly in charge of RCA sound product sales in Atlanta, has been named manager.

Park to WINS Here

Cincinnati, Oct. 7.—Eldon Park, program director of WLW, has been appointed manager of WINS, New York, both of which stations are owned by Crosley Broadcasting. William Robinson, former sales manager of the WLW Chicago office, has been named to succeed Park here.

Para. Television Deal

American Tobacco has signed with Paramount's Television stations KTLA, Los Angeles, and WBKB, Chicago, for a 13-week series of spots to begin simultaneously on both stations today. The contract calls for five visual spot announcements per week.

San Diego Video Bid

Washington, Oct. 7. — Balboa Radio Corp., of San Diego, Cal., filed with the Federal Communications Commission today for a commercial television license, specifying channel No. 6. It was the first request for television for that city.

Now Available—The Devonshire Group

DINNER AT THE RITZ • STORM IN A TEACUP • DARK JOURNEY • WINGS OF THE MORNING • GREEN COCKATOO • UNDER THE RED ROBE • FAREWELL AGAIN • ACTION FOR SLANDER • SOUTH RIDING

Devonshire Distributors Coast to Coast

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street Boston, Mass.

NOW YOU CAN SEE IT!

Beginning October 10 prints will be available for screenings in all exchanges!

FOREVER AMBER

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WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE "FOREVER AMBER"
IS AN ADVANCED ADMISSION PICTURE FROM...

20th CENTURY-FOX

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

62. NO. 71 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

Sears Reveals Major Offers 6 Films to UA

$5,000,000 Purchase of 4 From RKO Nearly Set

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—A major company, otherwise unidentified, has offered to sell six features for distribution by United Artists, it was disclosed here today by Gradwell L. Sears, UA president. This, the acquisition of RKO product and new financing are matters for the UA board of directors to decide, he added. The board will meet in New York on Tuesday.

Sears reported negotiations are near completion for the outright purchase of four RKO Radio features at a cost of $5,000,000, adding he intends to give assurances to the board that the RKO pictures will justify the investment in terms of domestic market rentals alone.

Releasing six from another com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

UK Labor Order Handicaps Theatres

LONDON, Oct. 8. — Most British exhibitors may be able to maintain at least minimum staffs under the Labor Ministry directive which orders labor locals to "guide" workers into "essential" industries, although exhibitors in certain areas where better paid jobs are available in new export factories are likely to be confronted with a labor shortage.

The government assumed dictatorial powers over 17,000,000 workers and their working hours Monday.

The directive lists a large number of trades, including "entertainment

(*Continued on page 7*)

N.W. Circuit Enters Junior Price Swing

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 8. — Junior admission prices have been established in the 11 theatres operated by Home Theatres, it was revealed at the circuit's annual convention at the Nicollet Hotel, here.

The junior rate for 'teen-agers between 12 and 18 follows closely the pattern recently established by Min-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Move to Restrain Ascap, Charging Theatres Helpless

Contending that a motion picture, although made at a cost of as high as $5,000,000, is in itself valueless in that the right to exhibit it must be cleared through the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and that the exhibitor is without bargaining power in acquiring this right, a group of New York exhibitors yesterday formally asked the New York Federal Court for an order restraining Ascap from imposing "unconscionable" increases in its theatre license fees.

Motion for the restraining order,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Cartoon Producers To Meet on Costs

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Walter Lantz, president of the Screen Cartoon Producers Association, will call a meeting of the group next week for a general discussion of economic problems arising from the loss of foreign revenues.

Lantz, who recently switched distribution from Universal-International to United Artists, reportedly has a formula for reducing production costs to a level sustainable on domestic grosses without sacrificing established quality and which he will present to the association.

Hollywood at Least Is Kind to Animals

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 8.—Co-operation of members of the Motion Picture Association on the Coast with the American Humane Association has resulted in the complete elimination of cruelty to animals in American films, it was stated in a report given to the association's convention at the Ten Eyck Hotel, here, by Richard Craven, who has retired as Western regional representative.

Propose Merger of Mexican Companies

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 8. — Organization of one big producing-distributing company for Mexican pictures is proposed by the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, Mexico's original film labor group, to help the industry out of its present difficulties and enable it to meet mounting competition from U. S., British and other foreign films here, and give Mexican films more of a place, and to hold it, on screens abroad.

The union presented the plan to 12 leading distributors in connection with demands it is making on all Mexican distributors for wage in-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Exhibitors-Distributors Agree: Bidding Is a Pain

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

Exhibitor complaints that the competitive bidding system causes hardship, as exemplified in post-convention conclusions of members of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association which were reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Monday, are being greeted by the distributors here with "We have our competitive bidding headaches too—and we didn't ask for the system."

While acknowledging that bidding operations have increased selling costs somewhat, distributor spokesmen who have been devoting time and effort to "nursing" the system state that that factor is less annoying than is the burdensome, irritating detail work which the procedure has created.

When the bids come in, one executive pointed out, it is no easy job to decide which bid is "best," particu-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Prepare for Wage Talks for Exchanges

Preparations are under way for opening wage talks for several thousand exchange employes in key cities, under a wage re-opening clause of the present national IATSE contract. The contract was extended last August as a result of the Taft-Hartley act, to Aug. 21, 1948. Wage re-opening was set for Dec 1, this year.

No date for the first negotiation session has been fixed as yet. At the IATSE offices, here, it was said that formal wage demands have not yet been drawn up.

Majors Reject King UK Tax Alternative

Seeks $12,000,000 Return from the U. S.

Sir Alexander King, Scottish theatre owner visiting here yesterday suggested as an alternative for the British *ad valorem* tax that the American film industry guarantee a minimum return of "at least $12,000,000 for the exhibition of British pictures in the U. S. and all of the Americas."

His suggestion was immediately rejected by Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, as spokesmen for major company presidents present at a luncheon in Sir Alexander's honor. It was given by the Motion Picture Association at the "21" Club.

Sir Alexander was flanked at the

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPA Board Weighs Fuller's Bid Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—The request of W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, that a Motion Picture Association fact-finding commission be sent to London almost immediately to examine the British *ad valorem* tax situation in case "certain eventualities" result from his forthcoming discussions in Washington with MPA

(*Continued on page 7*)

Tax to Affect U.K. in Six Months: Lawson

TORONTO, Oct. 8.—The people of Britain have not yet experienced the effect of the British *ad valorem* tax on film imports from dollar countries and of the film embargo by U. S. producers, Earl J. Lawson, presi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Nightmare Alley" is reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are reported on page 4.

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, and **CHARLES BOASBERG**, North-South division manager, who are in New Orleans, are expected back in New York over the weekend.

•

M. L. SIMONS, assistant to **H. M. RICHEY**, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will leave here tomorrow for Memphis where he will address the MPTOA of Arkansas and Tennessee convention.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave New York tomorrow to attend the Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan convention in Detroit.

•

GEORGE SETTOS has purchased the Lyric Theatre building, Cleveland, from **GEORGE RITZLER**, who has purchased the Allen, Lima, O., from **NATE SCHULTZ**.

•

ROBERT HOFF, sales manager of the Ballantyne Co., Omaha, and son-in-law of **ROBERT BALLANTYNE**, and **MRS. HOFF** are parents of a son.

•

CHARLES LEMAIRE, head of 20th Century-Fox's women's wardrobe department, is due here Saturday from the Coast.

•

JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, is in New England from New York on a visit of exchanges.

•

FRED MYERS, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, is due in Philadelphia today from Boston.

•

GRETA GARBO and **MARGARET SULLAVAN** are among passengers who will arrive here this afternoon from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio national exploitation director, is expected here today from Chicago.

•

LOUIS LICHENSTEIN, 20th Century-Fox traveling auditor, is in Albany, N. Y., from the home office.

•

O. J. SCHNEIDER has taken over the Muse Theatre, Osceola, Neb., from **JOSEPH CHANTRY**.

Columnist Seadler

Press Features, Inc., on Oct. 13 will start syndicating a newspaper column by Si Seadler, advertising manager of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, here. Captioned "We Only Live Once," it will be a two-column panel of wisdom, humor and art, published six days a week.

$100,000 for 'Intrigue' Ads

An advertising budget of $100,000 has been set for "Intrigue" by United Artists.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE British tax situation, No. 1 headline stealer these days, may galvanize into further action today as directors of the Motion Picture Association meet Eric Johnston in special session in Washington. The atmosphere has become more charged in the last few days, no doubt on the head of today's pow-wow.

Meanwhile, there are ideas and ideas floating around. Rather aimlessly, too. One broke out of the pages of the London *Financial Times* which suggested dropping the 75 per cent tax under an arrangement whereby America would swap one Hollywood picture for one of Britain's. It is admitted the swap could not reach equal proportions until London production parallels Hollywood's. In time, however — and certainly under the impetus of a wild-eyed scheme such as this—the London paper feels confident the scales would balance.

"If the American industry can find a formula under which a very large portion, if not the whole of the proceeds of American films, would be spent on payment for British films to be shown in the United States, then there may be a chance for agreement," runs the idea.

■

What this amounts to, at its maximum, is fantastic and distinguished by a total lack of realism. The American industry took $68,000,000 out of Britain last year. This proposal suggests Britain end up with a similar amount from the United States. The American industry arrived at 1946 proceeds as a result of the marketing in Britain of several hundred features. Today, England makes substantially less than 100. Who is to determine how many films from London are to equal Britain's hypothetical withdrawal of $68,000,000 from the domestic market?

If parity in numbers of releases is to equal the $68,000,000, on the other hand, this would mean the American market must absorb British product to approximately the total of Hollywood's output. This is absurd on its face.

■

It is highly questionable if English films will ever achieve public acceptance to an extent making this remotely possible. It is even more highly questionable if the American industry would, or should, slash its production to the drastic level which an idea such as this would require. American labor, and the rank-and-file working men and women who make up such large proportions of audiences, would be heard from in language most emphatic.

The English market for American films is worth fighting to retain, but a point can be reached where the return is not worth the struggle. Ever present, moreover, is the decision which the Labor Government must make with regard to British exhibition. Millions of pounds in theatre investment, the employment of thousands, tax collections and the recreation of the British public are considerations which the men of Downing Street cannot forever ignore.

■

This trial balloon, if it is that, has its humorous angles, however. The proposal of swapping one Hollywood film for one British could have its moments.

Would it be "The Best Years" for that prize British bird, "The Wicked Lady"? Or the bright "Miracle on 34th Street" for the dull "Magic Bow"? The commercial "Life with Father" for the uncommercial, if charming, "Tawny Pipit"?

■ ■

Paramount spoke on Tuesday. In paid space, naturally tied to its current and future releases, a neat wallop was landed on the unnamed button of "irresponsible sources inside and outside our business [who are] assailing Hollywood pictures . . . at the very time when this industry stands at the crossroads, confronted by serious problems affecting its world market."

This, as well: "All great structures are prey to jealous eyes from outside and termite attacks from within. The giant edifice of American pictures is no exception." Continuing with: "Our country and our industry now face unsatisfactory foreign conditions. We must adapt ourselves to this situation. Hollywood will meet the challenge by proving it excels the world not only in creative talent, but in the managerial ability to adapt itself to meet new conditions on a sound business basis."

Fighting copy. Good copy for the industry as well as for Paramount. We bow in front of the Paramount Building where Barney Balaban headquarters.

Additional Subjects Set for SMPE Meet

In addition to the theatre engineering, construction, equipment and related subjects already announced on the agenda of the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held on Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennslyvania, New York, the following general technical sessions are scheduled:

"A Modern Sound Reinforcement System for Theatres," by C. E. Talley of the Roxy Theatre, New York, and R. W. Kautzky of Altec Service; "A Measuring Instrument for Theatre Sound Service," C. S. Perkins and E. S. Seeley, Altec Service; "Motion Picture Photography at 5,000,000 Frames per Second," Brian O'Brien and Gordon Milne, University of Rochester; "A New Theatre Loudspeaker System," H. F. Hopkins, Bell Lab., and C. R. Keith, Western Electric; "A Projection Lamp with Improved Feed Mechanism," Ben Hopkins, Hopkins and Woods, Indianapolis; "Acoustical Factors in the Design of Motion Picture Equipment," Howard C. Hardy, Armour Research Foundation, Chicago, and other papers.

Continue Talks on Standby Clauses

Representatives of Local No. 802, American Federation of Musicians, here, and of the Capitol, Paramount and Strand theatres, will meet here again tomorrow to continue discussion of the question of standby clauses under the Taft-Hartley act.

A meeting between the union and theatre representatives was held yesterday, according to Charles Iucci, secretary of the local, but no decision was reached. The union contends that the current contract, which runs until next Labor Day, should be valid as far as its standby clauses are concerned.

Century Gift to PAL

Entire first day's receipts from its "SAT-R-DAY Camps" shows will be donated by Century Theatres to the Police Athletic League, according to J. R. Springer, general theatre manager. The "Camps" are special children's programs, slated to begin Oct. 18.

SCTOA Meets on TOA

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8.—Membership of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association will meet here tomorrow to elect its director representative on the board of the Theatre Owners of America, and to hear a full report on the recent TOA meeting in Washington.

Columbia Dividend

Columbia's board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on the $4.25 cumulative preferred stock, payable Nov. 15 to stockholders of record on Oct. 31.

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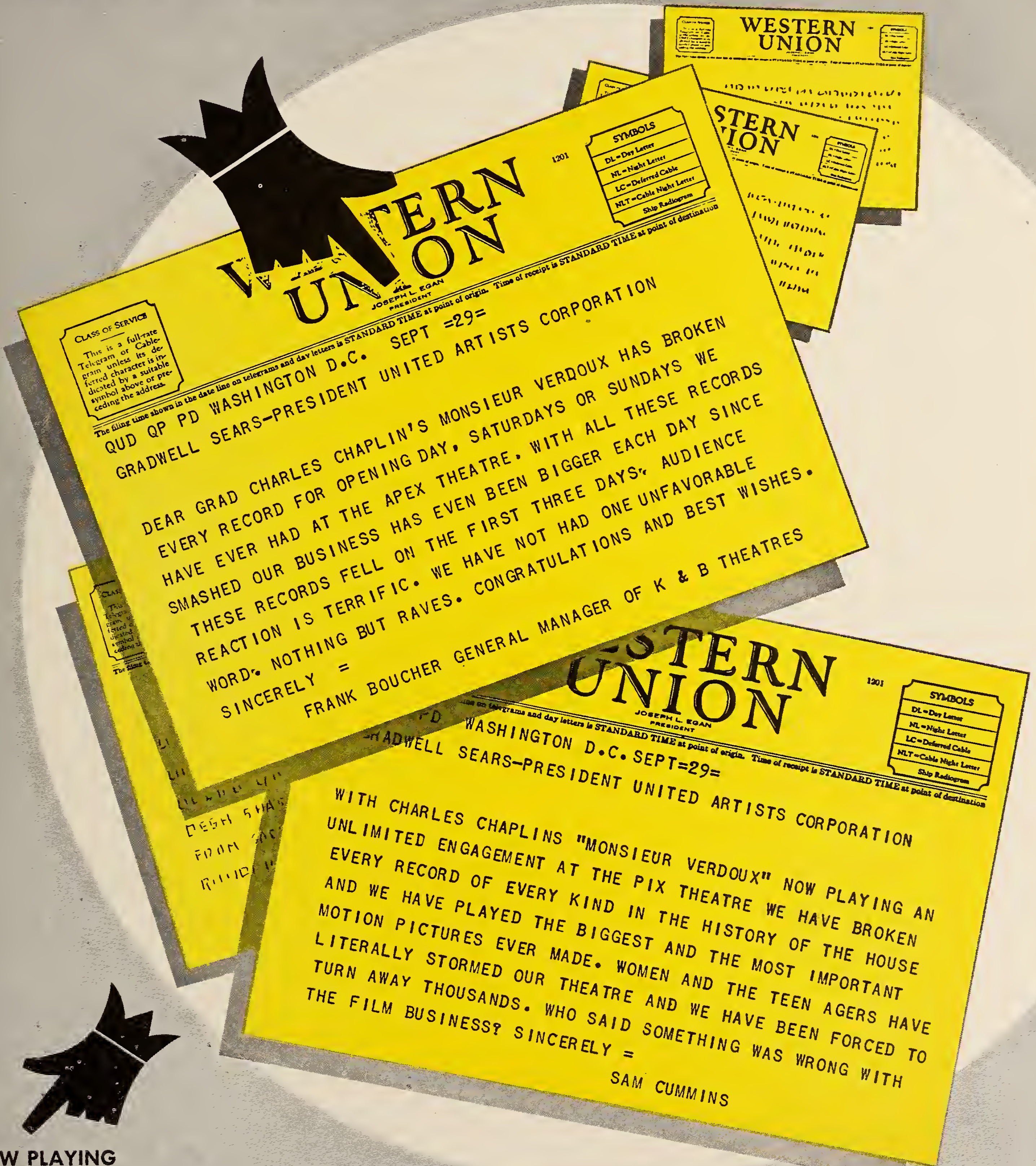
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"



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5-theatre day-and-date record-breaking Washington engagement and big bookings in Toronto, Milwaukee, Portland, Houston, Atlanta, Newark, Jersey City, New Orleans, Seattle, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Chicago, and more and more coming in every hour!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"The Foxes of Harrow" is drawing splendidly at the Fox, as is the double reissue bill of "Each Dawn I Die" and "Bad Men of Missouri," at the Stanton. Another impressive grosser is "Song of the Thin Man," at the Karlton. Most other films, however—nearly all carryovers—are doing only fair business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7-9:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100)
CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6th week. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $13,200)
DARK PASSAGE (WB)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $25,300)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $27,800)
EACH DAWN I DIE and BAD MEN OF MISSOURI (WB reissues)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $11,900)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $32,000. (Average: $20,400)
HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS (Col.)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $21,700. (Average: $23,100)
SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,900)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,400)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $6,000)
WILD HARVEST (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,700. (Average: $20,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

"Riff-Raff," with Tommy Dorsey on stage, drew big at the RKO Orpheum. "Life with Father" was doing well in its second week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover from Radio City. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,500)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,800)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—CENTURY (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-70c: $6,100)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $17,000)
RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-85c). Tommy Dorsey's Orchestra on stage. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $13,500)
SINGAPORE (U-I)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the RKO Orpheum. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800)

OMAHA

Theatres did only fair business with sports events cutting grosses down from their sizzling September pace. Weather was unusually warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8-9:

CRY WOLF (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $10,100. (Average: $10,600)
EACH DAWN I DIE (WB reissue) and BAD MEN OF MISSOURI (WB reissue)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) split with WESTERN UNION (20th-Fox) and LES MISERABLES (UA)—STATE (750) (50c-65c) 4th week for "Hucksters." Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)
LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,900. (Average: $9,300)
SLAVE GIRL (U-I) and THE AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business is spotty here this week. Three pictures are above average, two below, and the leader is a hold-over. Weather is unseasonably warm, with some rain. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 7-8:

DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)
MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,500)
NEW ORLEANS (UA) and FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c 60c). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000)

KANSAS CITY

Temperatures continued in the 80's and 90's, and last week's attendance was unexplainably below expectations, but this week it is better. "Life with Father" will be held a third week at the Orpheum. "Singapore" moved over to the Esquire, after a week at the three Fox Midwest first-runs and, with an added feature, "Yankee Fakir," is doing well. The Midland is having an extra good week with "Desire Me" and short subjects instead of the usual second feature. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 7-8:

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $17,250. (Average: $15,000)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,750)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $8,100. (Average: $9,000)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000)
SINGAPORE (U-I) and YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). After one week at the three Fox-Midwest first-runs. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

PITTSBURGH

Aided by unprecedented publicity, "Unconquered" easily smashed all box-office records at the Penn Theatre by grossing $50,000 in its opening week. The former house mark was held by "Going My Way." Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,000)
FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and STORK BITES MAN (UA)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—

(*Continued on page 6*)

Review

"Nightmare Alley"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

TYRONE POWER is a cheater, liar, seducer and thorough-going scoundrel in "Nightmare Alley." Perhaps the distaff side will take him that way. If so, this goes with it:

With an orphanage background, Power becomes a carnival man, makes illicit love to Joan Blondell, a phony spiritualist; accidentally, perhaps, feeds her drunk-sodden husband, Ian Keith, wood alcohol that kills him; carries on with Coleen Gray, another carnival performer, is forced to marry her and off they go. By this time, however, he is fortified with a code by which Miss Blondell and her late-lamented tricked the gullibles with fake feats of mind-reading.

Power becomes The Great Stanton, playing swanky supper rooms in Chicago hotels. There, he runs across Helen Walker, psychologist who has baited prominent society people in her unscrupulous trap. She and Power join hands for a killing and make nice progress at it until Miss Gray, Power's wife, decides she has had enough. She explodes a pet scheme of reproducing a vision of a long-dead young girl whom Taylor Holmes, tycoon and potential chief sucker for Power's schemes, once loved.

Power has to take it on the lam, returning first to his psychologist—a co-conspirator who proceeds to flimflam him out of their falsely begotten money and sets in motion the idea he is mentally off-keel. He takes to drink and the rails, reaches a low on the human ladder and becomes a carnival "geek." For the uninitiated, a "geek" [his profession, fortunately never shown] is a stumble-bum satisfied to bite off the heads of live chickens in public display for a daily bottle of liquor, plus coffee and cake. There Miss Gray finds Power again, prepared to take him under wing and restore him to society.

"Nightmare Alley," from a novel by William Lindsay Gresham, and a script by Jules Furthman, is a long and unpleasant story about mostly unpleasant people. It has stretches of impact. It is able to boast of a generally strong performance by its star, aided principally by Miss Blondell and Miss Walker. Story-wise, it is not always logical. There are passages where religion is made the easy butt of quackery and deception and, of course, the science of psychology takes a rap through the malpractices of the spokesman here shown.

Power's draw is an obviously important consideration to bear in mind. So, too, is the nature of the film his producers elected for him this time. "Nightmare Alley" impresses as best for downtown areas in big cities and is not what is accepted widely as a family-type attraction. Edmund Goulding directed for producer George Jessel.

Running time, 111 minutes. Adult audience classification. For release in October.

Red Kann

20 More Theatre Projects Approved

Washington, Oct. 8 — For the week ending Oct. 3, the Office of the Federal Housing Expediter approved 20 theatre projects, to cost $1,002,126. An additional 55 theatre construction and repair projects were rejected. They would have cost $2,472,913.

Delft Circuit Adds Another; Now Has 16

Minneapolis, Oct. 8. — Hugh E. (Doc) Gallup's Delft circuit has been increased to 16 theatres in Upper Michigan and Wisconsin, with the acquisition of the Ejay, Crystal Falls, Mich., leased for a long period from E. J. Bregger.

In addition to Crystal Falls, Delft operates theatres in Escanaba, Iron River, Munising and Marquette, where it has headquarters, and is affiliated in theatre operations in Sault Ste Marie, Manistique, Ishpeming and Negaunee in Michigan, and in Rhinelander, Wis.

N.W. Club to Join Variety

Seattle, Oct. 8. — The Northwest Film Club in its annual meeting has voted to join Variety Clubs International. A board of seven trustees was named with instructions to proceed with plans for application for the charter. The board of trustees includes B. F. Shearer, Frank L. Newman, Sr., Leroy Johnson and J. T. Sheffield, who is the holdover member of the present club. Investigation of several proposed locations for the new organization is under way.

Dickinson Raises Scale

Topeka, Oct. 8. — The Crystal (Dickinson), closed three months ago because of unsatisfactory returns, will be reopened shortly under a new policy of second-runs and at admissions advanced from 39 cents for adults and 14 for children, to 50 cents for adults and 20 for children. The Crystal formerly operated with Western and action pictures, as does the Dickinson circuit's Glen, half a block away.

Helen Gilmore, 47

Helen Gilmore, 47, associated with MacFadden Publications for the past 14 years and editor of *Photoplay* magazine since 1941, died of acute lukemia yesterday at the Mount Sinai Hospital here. Born in Chicago, she came to New York in 1917 and after 11 years on the stage, she joined *Liberty* magazine in 1933 and became editor of *Movie Mirror* in 1938, which was merged with *Photoplay* in 1941. Besides her husband, Richard Florac, she leaves her mother, Mrs. Helen Gilmore. Funeral services will be held at 2 P. M. today at Universal Chapel here, with private interment following.

Hoffenstein Services

Hollywood, Oct. 8.—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow in Pierce Brothers Mortuary for Samuel Hoffenstein, 57, screen writer, who died here on Monday following a heart attack.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U A	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 7		GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47) THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47) THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)			ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min. (651) (Rev. 9/8/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47) THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47) DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47) THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47) KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47) (Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47) (Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41) (Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev.10/20/41)		(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47) SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47) FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (701) (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 14						EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min. (Rev. 9/16/47)			(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47) HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)		LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens C—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D—66 min. (Rev. 9/26/47) OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)			WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)	DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min. (621)					
Sept. 28		BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O			ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)						DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min.	LOVE FROM A STRANGER John Hodiak Sylvia Sydney D	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47) SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47) (Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39) DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (Rev. 9/26/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751) (Rev. 10/7/47)				(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (Rev. 9/10/47) BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr David Farrar D—98 min. (Rev. 7/8/47) WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER Chas. Starret Smiley Burnette O-55 min. BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 min.	RETURN OF THE LASH Al "Lash" La Rue Al St. John O GUN LAW Al "Lash" La Rue O		JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)			(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47) THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47) UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47) RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47) CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47) NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D FOREVER AMBER (Color) Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D—140 min. (733)	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47) MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)		(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Oct. 19	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine Mary Anderson Paul Lukas D		PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O		ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648)					(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Oct. 26	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD Jean Porter Jimmy Lloyd C-70 min. HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone Lucille Ball C—91 min. (Rev. 7/22/47)	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47) CHEYENNE TAKES OVER Al 'Lash" La Rue O		LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/28/47)						THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Nov. 2	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min.		(Nov. Release) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O							THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D
Nov. 9	DOWN TO EARTH (Color) Rita Hayworth Larry Parks D—101 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)										
Nov. 16	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (Rev. 10/7/47)			(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER Belita Barry Sullivan D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)				(Nov. Release) INTRIGUE George Raft June Havoc D		

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

'Variety' Nets $27,500

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Total of $27,500 was netted for the "Heart Fund" of the Los Angeles Variety Club, Tent No. 25, by a benefit premiere of Paramount's "Variety Girl" and a stage show "spark plugged" by Bob Hope and George Jessel, at the Paramount Theatre in Los Angeles tonight. Proceeds, to be used for establishment of an Eastside Boys' Club set a record for the series of benefit premieres of the picture, as sponsored by local Variety Clubs throughout the nation.

New AAF Vet Unit

A new squadron of the Air Forces Association comprising ex-members of the Army Air Forces employed in the film, radio, television and legitimate theatre fields, is being organized. Billy Roach is handling pre-organization details. Roach is a member of the law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery and Lawler.

Delay N. J. Theatre Meet

NEWARK, Oct. 8.—Prospective legislation before the New Jersey legislature will be discussed at a statewide meeting of the Federation of New Jersey Theatres, to be set shortly, the Federation discloses in announcing that the meeting originally scheduled to be held in Trenton tonight had been postponed.

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Move to Restrain Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

which is incorporated in the plaintiffs' anti-trust case against Ascap, is to be argued Oct. 17.

Affidavits in support of the motion put considerable stress on the assertion that all copyrighted material, with the sole exception of music, is paid for by the producer, and covered in the purchase is the performing right of that material.

Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, asserts by deposition that "strangely enough with respect to music only, the producer merely acquires the right to integrate the music into the film without the right to perform such music."

This is in contrast, Brandt declares, to the fact that the right of exhibition of all other copyrighted component parts of a film (original story, script, sketches, etc.) is acquired by the producer, "as in good sense they should be."

Continuing, the affidavit states: "This splitting of exhibition rights from synchronization rights, which largely contributes to Ascap's domination and control over the industry, is caused by the mandatory requirements of the articles of association of Ascap and its contracts with its respective members."

200 to 1,500% Fee Rise

Brandt, who claims to operate or have interests in the operation of 100 houses here, says Ascap's announced new license rates represent increases of from 200 per cent to close to 1,500 per cent. Milton C. Weisman, of the law firm of Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allan and Spett, also cites the latter figure.

Unless the matter is remedied by the court, Brandt goes on, the exhibitor must pay Ascap, which "could very well have increased its licensing fee rates 5,000 per cent instead of a mere 1,500 per cent," or go out of business.

Hits 'Mantle for Monopoly'

Brandt's denunciation of Ascap operations includes a blast at what he refers to as a "mantle by which Ascap cloaks the illegality of its monopoly." He refers here to the society's non-exclusive contracts with its members which he brands as meaningless in that an individual member is forced to turn into the Ascap "pool" any monies he collects for performance of his music. Also without practical meaning, he continues, is the fact that Ascap will grant licenses for individual songs piecemeal. He supports this with the charge that "music is irrevocably integrated into the film before the bargaining for the performing rights thereof is had."

Brandt lashed out at the consent decree under which Ascap is operating, alleging it to have eliminated "certain abusive practices particularly affecting the radio industry" but devoid of benefit to the film industry. He added Ascap agreed to "bargaining at the source" in the radio field (meaning one contract for a network rather than individual pacts with each station) but was "careful to restrict the requirement for 'bargaining at the source' to radio only.

Motion is also made to restore ITOA's pending anti-trust case against Ascap to the calendar for immediate trial. The suit was filed about six years ago.

Key City Grosses

(*Continued from page* 4)

FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $9,700)
THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000)
UNCONQUERED (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (74c-$1.20). Gross: $50,000. (Average: $25,000)
WILD HARVEST (Para.)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200)

BOSTON

Excellent weather, slightly warmer than seasonal, held most grosses down. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 8:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $27,000)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: 4 days, $12,000. (Average: 4 days, $16,000)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: 4 days, $6,000. (Average: 4 days, $8,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,500)
WILD HARVEST (Para.) and KILLER DILL (Screen Guild) — FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,100. (Average: $5,300)
WILD HARVEST (Para.) and KILLER DILL (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,200)
WYOMING (Rep.)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show, Jack Haley and Constance Moore. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,700)

Bidding Pains

(*Continued from page* 1)

larly when exhibitor offers vary only slightly and there are so many additional angles to consider, such as the competing theatres' individual grossing potential and the question whether a substantial percentage-of-gross offer combined with an unattractive rental guarantee is better or worse than is an unattractive percentage plus a substantial guarantee. Additionally, it is held, what may be regarded as a "top" bid in one area is considerably less than that in another.

Uppermost in the minds of the sales chiefs as they weigh bids is the matter of "keeping things irreproachable from a legal point of view." Attorneys' services have become necessary almost every time bids come in, and added expense has, of course, resulted.

Distributor opinion in some quarters is that "bidding is here to stay." The fact, it is said, that the Government was "out to break so-called monopolies" points to this. More than one top sales executive believes that even if divorcement of affiliated theatres becomes a *fait accompli* bidding ultimately will become common practice in the industry. "Can't it be taken for granted," they ask, "that charges of collusion, be they justified or not, would sooner or later be made if bidding bowed out with the advent of divorcement?" Such charges, it is held, cannot be made if bidding prevails.

Bidding is now practiced almost universally by M-G-M, and has been embraced to a somewhat lesser degree by RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox. Paramount is said to have put the procedure into operation in a few isolated localities on a trial basis.

The most "heartbreaking" feature of competitive bidding is the way it can put a company in a position to lose exhibitor "friends," one executive lamented. He cited instances where the company was forced to sell product away from customers of many years' standing because competitors who had never done business with the company before outbid them.

Sears, UA

(*Continued from page* 1)

pany will be of benefit to the company and UA both, Sears observed. He explained it would further solidify UA's product position and for the producer it would mean lower overhead expenses on other productions, precluding the necessity of dismissing personnel.

UA has well underway arrangements for the establishment of a $4,500,000 revolving fund which wil[illegible] made available by a "private sou[illegible] Sears declared. The money will be used for investment in product which the company will release.

Financial Concern Over

As for UA's independent producers, Sears stated there are no longer any financial obstacles in their way and to this he added that many of them, including Charles R. Rogers, Edward Small, Seymour Nebenzal, Sam Bischoff and Enterprise Productions, have no monetary problems.

Linking the selection of UA films to estimates of potential returns from the domestic market exclusively, Sears pronounced himself "bearish plus" on the foreign market and predicted a 65 per cent drop in foreign market revenue. He cited Denmark's recent allocation regulations as well as England's and Australia's in support of his view.

'Ideology' in UK Tax

The UA president also averred that his recent trip to England convinced him that the Labor Government is determined, for ideological reasons, to prevent an influx of American films through heavy taxation and stringent regulations.

Explaining that he is also slightly bearish about the domestic market because of the high price of foodstuffs and the family budget, Sears reiterated the oft-advanced remedy of "good pictures, penetration publicity and a saturated solution of showmanship" to meet the "menace of lowered boxoffice returns" in the U. S.

Home Circuit

(*Continued from page* 1)

nesota Amusement in the Twin Cities and Duluth, the new admission price being the minimum charged for children under 12 and the adult admission charge.

A number of other independently operated theatres in the territory have adopted the junior admission price plan inaugurated by Maco, but Twin Cities independents are still holding out against establishing the rate on the ground that the tax bite is too big in view of the ruling of the Bureau of Internal Revenue that the Federal tax on "cut" prices must be based on the established adult price of the theatre.

Await Frozen-Fund Treasury Ruling

Informal discussions with the Treasury Department on the question of corporate income taxes on frozen overseas currencies have been held by representatives of the Motion Picture Association, which has asked for a ruling that such currencies be free from corporate income taxes. Edwin Cohen of the New York law firm Sullivan and Cromwell acted as legal representative for the MPA in the talks with Treasury officials.

While there have been a number of court decisions on the question, they have all been lower court decisions and have varied in their interpretation. There has never been a United States Supreme Court ruling on the question.

In view of the British *ad valorem* tax and the recent Australian settlement, the question is a pressing one, and a ruling could help determine policy on any possible compromise in the British situation.

Tax to Affect

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., declared here, following his return from a visit to England. But he predicted that the difference will be noted in about six months, and that there will be complaints from the public. He also foresees the possibility of a tax amendment by the British government.

Although J. Arthur Rank has stimulated production in England, the entire British industry could not provide theatres there with sufficient fresh pictures indefinitely, Lawson said.

Rank has no immediate production plans for Canada, but the construction program of Canadian Odeon will proceed as rapidly as labor and materials permit, Lawson continued. The Odeon theatre which will be opened in Toronto by next summer represents a cost of $2,000,000, and will seat 2,300, he added.

He indicated that plans are being developed for the distribution in Canada of Rank's religious and educational films, and that Harry Painter of the Canadian Rank organization has also been in England to discuss the subject.

Mayer and Burstyn To Release 6 Films

Six films will be distributed during 1947-1948 by Arthur Mayer and Joseph Burstyn, American distributors of European films.

The films include, "Paisa," a new Italian film by Roberto Rossellini; "Bataille du Rail," French resistance film; "A Day in the Country"; "Riders to the Sea," played by the Irish Abbey Players; "Poison Pen," and "Shaktuntala," India-produced film.

Shapiro to England

Irvin Shapiro, president of Film Rights International will leave here for England on the *Queen Mary* tomorrow to complete negotiations with Jean-Louis Barrault on production of a film in France in which Barrault will be starred. He also plans other deals for French pictures for the U. S.

'HCL' Causes Cut In Theatre Prices

Brussels, Oct. 4. (By Airmail). — In a general drive against the high cost of living, former Prime Minister Van Acker has decreed a 10 per cent cut in prices, including those of all picture houses. Thirty-franc seats, the top price in this country (approximately 65 cents in the U. S.), went down to 27 francs. The decree, enforced as of Oct. 10, will bring back former normal prices. These now range between 30 and 15 francs for first-class houses in Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent and Liége, showing exclusive runs, while other categories range from seven to 18 francs.

King Alternative

(*Continued from page* 1)

luncheon by Sir Sidney Clift, British exhibitor, and Mark Ostrer, managing director of Gaumont-British, Ltd., and after suggesting the $12,000,000 figure, he added: "If possible, I urge you to increase it to $16,000,000, the dollar equivalent of 4,000,000 pounds, which is one-third of estimated remittables."

Sir Alexander continued:

"Four million pounds ($16,000,000), likewise one-third, you would invest in Great Britain, either in British film production or in any other manner agreed.

"The other one-third, which on an estimated 12,000,000 pounds in remittables would also be 4,000,000 pounds ($16,000,000) you take out with no strings attached."

Sir Alexander prefaced his plan by telling film company presidents: "With the sharp decline in cinema receipts, I estimate that next year your remittable revenue might be 12,000,000 pounds." It was on this basis, he said, that he predicated the figures in his plan.

Both Skouras and Balaban agreed with Sir Alexander that, "There is a basis of negotiation somewhere," but American film producers need dollars with which to produce quality American motion pictures. They agreed to enter negotiations with England at any time and any place, but they reiterated their opposition to a confiscatory tax or any measure resembling it.

In the course of his address, Sir Alexander also said:

"I know of no anti-American feeling in Britain, and Scottish-American relations were further strengthened by the war.

"The main thing that must not be overlooked and the crux of the matter is that the British public wants American films.

"Don't waste time just organizing this industry as if the cinema industry is in a state of siege. Don't look on the position as hopeless and don't waste time arranging the funeral service for the (British) industry when we are still alive.

"I do not want to see this great industry run by Acts of Parliament. Entertainment is not national. It is international. You can have all the Acts of Parliament in all the countries you like, but the moment you cease to entertain the public, you are doomed and damned."

US Managers Hosts At Fuller Farewell

London, Oct. 8.—W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, president, will be the guests of American film companies' managing directors in Britain at a farewell luncheon to be held at the Hungaria Restaurant, here, tomorrow, before they take off by plane for the U. S.

Meanwhile, tendencious efforts have been made in ill-motivated quarters here to deprecate the impending visit of the two with Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston in the U. S. to discuss the British tax impasse.

British Film Producers Association is still clinging to its much-criticized original view that all the Americans can hope from the British market is 4,000,000 pounds ($16,000,000) annually, plus an amount equivalent to what British films earn in the U. S. At a joint BFPA-CEA meeting today, Fuller said he declined to accept this view.

MPA Board Weighs

(*Continued from page* 1)

president Eric A. Johnston, will be discussed at a special meeting of the MPA board here tomorrow, an MPA spokesman said this afternoon.

In the meantime, MPA officials said they were not advised whether the British delegation had already left for the United States. Fuller and B. T. Davis, CEA president, were scheduled to leave London by plane for Washington tomorrow.

Tomorrow's meeting will have the following sitting in attendance: Johnston, Francis Harmon, Gerald M. Mayer and George Borthwick, all of the MPA; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal: Jack Cohn, Columbia; J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal; Ned Depinet, RKO; James E. Perkins, managing director of Paramount in Great Britain; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Samuel Schneider, Warners; Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox.

UK Labor Order

(*Continued from page* 1)

and sport" to which workers are not to be "guided" while vacanies exist in essential industries. The order applies only to unemployed persons, part time workers and persons under 18 years of age.

Film distributors are likely to experience most difficulty, particularly in replacing unskilled or clerical workers whom they may lose. Film production is accepted as a potential export industry and therefore has not been placed in the same category with "entertainment and sport."

Mexican Merger

(*Continued from page* 1)

creases for its members. The union expects the Mexican distributors to grant the same 20 per cent pay raise that was recently allowed by the eight major American companies. The Americans averted a strike to enforce demands for pay raises up to 70 per cent, by talks with the union that induced it to accept the 20 per cent.

Films Exempt from New Australia Move

All unused licenses for imports from dollar areas, with the exception of certain licenses for films, tobacco, newsprint, gasoline and textiles, have been ordered turned in by Oct. 21 in Australia, according to Australian sources here. Last Friday the Motion Picture Association here reached an agreement with the Australian government on a 30 per cent block of American distributors, thus permitting an uninterrupted flow of U. S. films to Australia, and also permitting remittances up to 70 per cent to the U. S.

Disclosure of the latest Australian action was made yesterday by Australian Trade and Customs Minister Benjamin Courtice in Canberra. He explained that the government desired to take stock of Australia's commitments and to decide what further steps might be necessary to conserve dollars.

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THE LAST ROUND-UP

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JEAN HEATHER · RALPH MORGAN · CAROL THURSTON · MARK DANIELS

and

THE TEXAS RANGERS

Screenplay by Jack Townley and Earle Snell

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- The Last Round-up
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- You Can't See the Sun When You're Crying
- An Apple for the Teacher
- She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain

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62. NO. 72 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1947 TEN CENTS

Bankers Say Loan Policy Is Unchanged

Base Judgment on: 'Good Producer Is Good Risk'

There has been no material change in financing of independent producers by New York and Los Angeles banks most active in that field, a check-up with banking officials yesterday revealed.

Statements of policy resolved themselves into this:

> **"If the deal is sound, the producer gets the money."**

The bankers made it clear that the policy holds whether the British tax problem is resolved or not and despite developments elsewhere in the foreign market.

George Yousling, in charge of motion picture loans for the Security

(*Continued on page* 8)

Col. Sales Meeting Opens Here Oct. 13

Columbia Pictures will hold its annual sales convention in three sessions this season, it was announced here yesterday by A. Montague, general sales manager. The meetings have been set for New York, Oct. 13-17; New Orleans, Oct. 28-31, and San Francisco, Nov. 4-8.

Home Office executives, department heads and top sales personnel who will attend the New York meeting, to be held at the Hotel Warwick, include:

(*Continued on page* 8)

Appoint Wir E-L Mexico Manager

Paul M. Wir has been appointed Eagle Lion manager for Mexico, by Sam L. Seidelman, general manager in charge of foreign operations. Seidelman recently returned from Mexico City, where he established the first of

(*Continued on page* 6)

No Paper Monday

Motion Picture Daily **will not be published on Monday, a legal holiday in observance of Columbus Day, Sunday.**

Utah Owners Back TOA Policy, Aims

Salt Lake City, Oct. 9.—Directors of the Utah Theatres Association declared themselves in accord with the aims and policies of the new Theatre Owners of America, at a board meeting here. The new set-up was explained to directors by Victor Anderson of Orem, Utah, retiring UTA president, who attended the TOA Washington organizational meeting.

A parley of all members of the UTA will be held in Salt Lake City after a meeting of independent theatre owners and operators from Utah and Southern Idaho who are members of the PCCITO.

Two additional regional exhibitor organizations have scheduled meetings

(*Continued on page* 8)

Omaha Territory Has 432 Theatres

Washington, Oct. 9.—Some 432 theatres with a total seating capacity of 166,106 are now operating in the Omaha area, the Omaha directory, fourth in a series of 31 territorial directories which will be released by the Motion Picture Association, discloses.

Omaha, Sioux City, Lincoln and Council Bluffs, the four largest cities in the Omaha territory, account for 47 theatres, with a total seating capacity of 47,849.

About three-fourths of the theatres, or 314, are located in 309 towns with a population of 2,500 and less. The average number of seats in these theatres is revealed to be 255.

UK's Eadie May Meet MPA's Johnston Here

London, Oct. 9.—It may not be necessary for Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston to come here for British *ad valorem* tax discussions with Sir Wilfred Eadie, as planned. Sir Wilfred, high-placed British Treasury official who headed the recent mission to Washington on the Anglo-American loan agreement, is said to be planning another trip to Washington to discuss with U. S. Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder possible freeing of the balance of the American loan credit.

Although film matters are reported not included in Sir Wilfred's agenda, here, it is expected he would take advantage of the opportunity to meet with Johnston.

Remittance Tax Is Sought in Brazil

Rio de Janeiro, Oct. 9.—A bill to place a tax of two per cent on all remittances from Brazil to foreign countries has been introduced here by Deputy Amando Fontes.

The 1948 budget has now reached a record total of nearly $1,000,000,000. Increased taxes partly covered a deficit of $80,000,000, but left a deficit of $18,000,000 which the Fontes bill is designed to cover.

A remittance tax existed some years ago, but was abolished.

"Forever Amber"

[*20th Century-Fox*] — As Commercial as the Book

THE Kathleen Winsor novel from which 20th Century-Fox has evolved a luxuriously costumed and decorated Technicolor production of equally grandiose commercial dimensions, was an unquestioned business sensation in the book publishing and vending businesses for at least 18 months following its appearance in 1944.

Exhibitors, whose turn it is now to market this brazen wench, Amber, to an equally curious and probably numerically larger following may rest assured that they are being given substantially the same merchandise to offer as were the booksellers and there is no apparent reason why their business experience with it should vary in any important degree.

It was a best-seller of amazing longevity in the reading, if not the literary, world. Its rating is every bit as good as a ticket-seller.

For Amber, you are given Linda Darnell, who, lavishly costumed, photographs in Technicolor like a calendar girl fit for a plush barber shop. Through 17th Century London boudoirs, court apartments and palace halls, among other places, she moves with all the eye-catching accoutrements that a Darryl Zanuck presentation and a William Perl-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Break in U. K. Tax Impasse Is Indicated

MPA Board Will Hold Another Session in D.C.

Washington, Oct. 9.—Further evidence of growing concern (and possibly an early compromise) regarding the British tax impasse was presented here today in the form of another meeting of Motion Picture Association board members on the subject and issuance of notice that still another such session is scheduled within the next two weeks.

In the meantime, Eric Johnston, MPA president, will confer with Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, on the matter of the British Treasury's invitation to film leaders here to discuss the issue.

Today's session was described as "exploratory," presumably concerning itself with the proposal, advanced in London by W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibi-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Nelson to Capital Again on UK Tax

Hollywood, Oct. 9.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will leave here by plane on Sunday for Washington to continue conferences with Government officials on the British *ad valorem* tax situation as it affects independent producers financially, preliminary to his supposed trip

(*Continued on page* 8)

Canada Charting Dollar-Saving Plan

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—Full details of a concerted program now being developed by the Canadian Cabinet to conserve dollar reserves are expected to be revealed shortly.

Finance Minister Abbott may withhold specific announcements until the

(*Continued on page* 8)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are reported on page 6.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

RKO RADIO producer Dore Schary has in mind, for production next season, a story inspired by the return next year of nine unidentified American soldiers killed in action. They will be brought from nine fields of battle of World War II, and from among them will be selected the Unknown Soldier, to rest in Arlington, Virginia.

Schary will fictionalize separate sequences of the lives of each of the nine unknowns, and, as the picture ends, he will leave to the imagination of the audience the decision on which of the nine lies at rest in the national tomb as The Unknown.

Some heart-tugging lies ahead for those left behind by the many who were lost in action.

▽

Buster Keaton, "stone face" of Hollywood's silent-film days, has found a new career at 52. He has become a circus performer in a little side-street in the Montmartre district of Paris.

The management estimates that Keaton has brought in as many customers as the show's pre-war feature, an act with four elephants. "Besides," said the manager, "we had to feed the elephants."

▽

***Omnibook* has a story about Bob Considine, columnist and co-author of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," who, while cruising in a friend's new convertible, discovered that it was equipped with a telephone. He couldn't resist calling his wife, Mildred, who was awakened from a sound sleep to hear an operator drone, "There is a mobile call for you." "I don't know anybody in Mobile," said Mrs. Considine, as she slammed the receiver down. The operator rang her again, and again, with the same results, until finally Mrs. C. heard her husband say, "What hath God wrought?". "Come home," answered Mrs. Considine, "you're drunk."**

▽

State of Confusion Department: Page One headlines reporting the news of the day in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, the other day:

SUMMER DREW FIRM RISE
IN FIRST-RUN INCOME

DIVIDENDS ARE RUNNING
25% AHEAD OF LAST YEAR

ECONOMY WAVE REDUCES
COLOR PRODUCTIONS

▽

Strange tales of irony and pathos concerning that horrible Minerva Film Building fire in Rome of several months ago — in which practically every person in the structure was either killed or seriously injured—are reaching these shores piecemeal, as authorities over there continue their investigation.

One girl, whose body was all but devoured by the flames and explosions, was found to be wearing a wristwatch which was still running, on time.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and MORT BLUMENSTOCK, advertising-publicity chief, will leave New York for the Coast this weekend.

•

SAM SHAIN, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor relations director, will leave here Monday for Memphis to attend the MPTO of Arkansas and Tennessee convention.

•

MAURY ORR, United Artists Western sales manager, is due back in New York early next week from Chicago.

•

CHARLIE LEONARD, Columbia booker in Charlotte, has resigned, effective Oct. 20, to head the Warner booking branch in that city.

•

SAMUEL SCHNEIDER, Warner vice-vice-president, has returned to New York from Europe.

•

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram Latin American supervisor, is back in New York from Havana.

•

HUNT STROMBERG and MRS. STROMBERG are here from Hollywood.

HAL ROACH is en route to Hollywood from New York.

•

MARK N. SILVER, United Artists Pennsylvania - Washington district manager, and GERRY PRICE, Washington branch manager, left New York yesterday for Washington.

•

PHYLLIS CALVERT and her husband, PETER MURRAY-HILL, British film actor, will sail from New York tomorrow on the *SS Queen Mary* for England.

•

HELEN ALLEN, press representative for SAMUEL GOLDWYN, and DAVE CANTOR, RKO Radio district field representative, were Salt Lake City visitors this week.

•

HARRY KOSINER, Eastern representative for EDWARD SMALL, will fly to Rome Sunday and expects to visit Paris.

•

HARRY HARDY of the Carolina Theatre offices is in a Charlotte hospital for a minor operation.

•

W. M. RICHARDSON, part owner of Astor Pictures, Atlanta, was a recent New Orleans visitor.

RKO Producers Only To Film for Company

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Dore Schary, RKO production chief, today confirmed reports that the studio will confine production to its own contract producers from now on, although it will continue present deals with contributing independents. The disclosure comes in the wake of negotiations with United Artists for the sale of several pictures produced prior to Schary's assumption of his RKO post.

RKO Will Release New Short Series

RKO Radio will release a new series starring "Flame, the Wonder Dog", starting Oct. 31. Ted Donaldson and Sharyn Moffett, juvenile players, will also be featured, in high-budgeted two-reel subjects. They will carry full accessories, including press book, eight by ten stills, one sheet posters and 11 by 14 lobbies, according to Harry J. Michalson, RKO's short subject sales manager.

Arbitration Forum

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 9.—The American Arbitration Association, which conducts the industry arbitration tribunals, will depict operation of arbitration as contrasted with litigation processes at a forum at the Yale Law School here on Oct. 20. Herman Levy, general counsel of Theatre Owners of America, will participate.

Sheehan Quits Wurtzel

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Howard Sheehan has resigned as production assistant to Sol M. Wurtzel. He had held the post for two years. Sheehan will announce a new affiliation shortly.

Anti - Ascap Motion Hearing Postponed

Hearing on a motion by members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York to restrain the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers from increasing its rates for theatres has been postponed from Oct. 17 to Oct. 24 by mutual consent of counsel for both parties. Louis Frohlich, Ascap counsel, will leave for Washington State today and will not be back here by Oct. 17.

Routine Matters at Today's Ascap Meet

About 400 are expected at the annual general membership meeting of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here today. Routine business occupies the agenda, including reports by Deems Taylor, president; Louis Bernstein, treasurer, and John O'Connor, chairman of the executive committee. There will be no board meeting.

N.J. Allied Meets Oct. 21

Membership meeting of Allied of New Jersey will be held at the Newark Athletic Club, in Newark, on Oct. 21. A report on the Oct. 14-15 National Allied board meeting in Detroit will be made by president Edward Lachman and Eastern regional vice-president Irving Dollinger.

Seichnaydre Celebrates

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 9. — Leo V. Seichnaydre, branch manager of Republic Pictures, here, is celebrating his 31st anniversary in the motion picture business with a playdate drive, to extend to Dec. 26.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N.Y. Showing!
M-G-M's
'LIVING IN A BIG WAY'
GENE KELLY
MARIE McDONALD
IN PERSON
'Bojangles'
BILL ROBINSON
WYNN MURRAY
Plus OTHERS

LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
IN HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Desert Fury"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
in Person
"MR TEMPO"
DESI ARNAZ
And His Orchestra
DULCINA
RUDY CARDENAS
THE 3 NONCHALANTS
Extra MARION HUTTON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART • JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

"Will do your heart good."—*Hale, News*
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

Gary COOPER • Paulette GODDARD
in *Cecil B. DeMille's*
"UNCONQUERED"
In Technicolor
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TYRONE POWER *in*

NIGHTMARE ALLEY

OPENED YESTERDAY

smashing the record-breaking business of "Kiss of Death" which broke all records in 15 years at the Mayfair Theatre, New York!

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GEORGE JESSEL · Screen Play by Jules Furthman · Based on the Novel by William Lindsay Gresham
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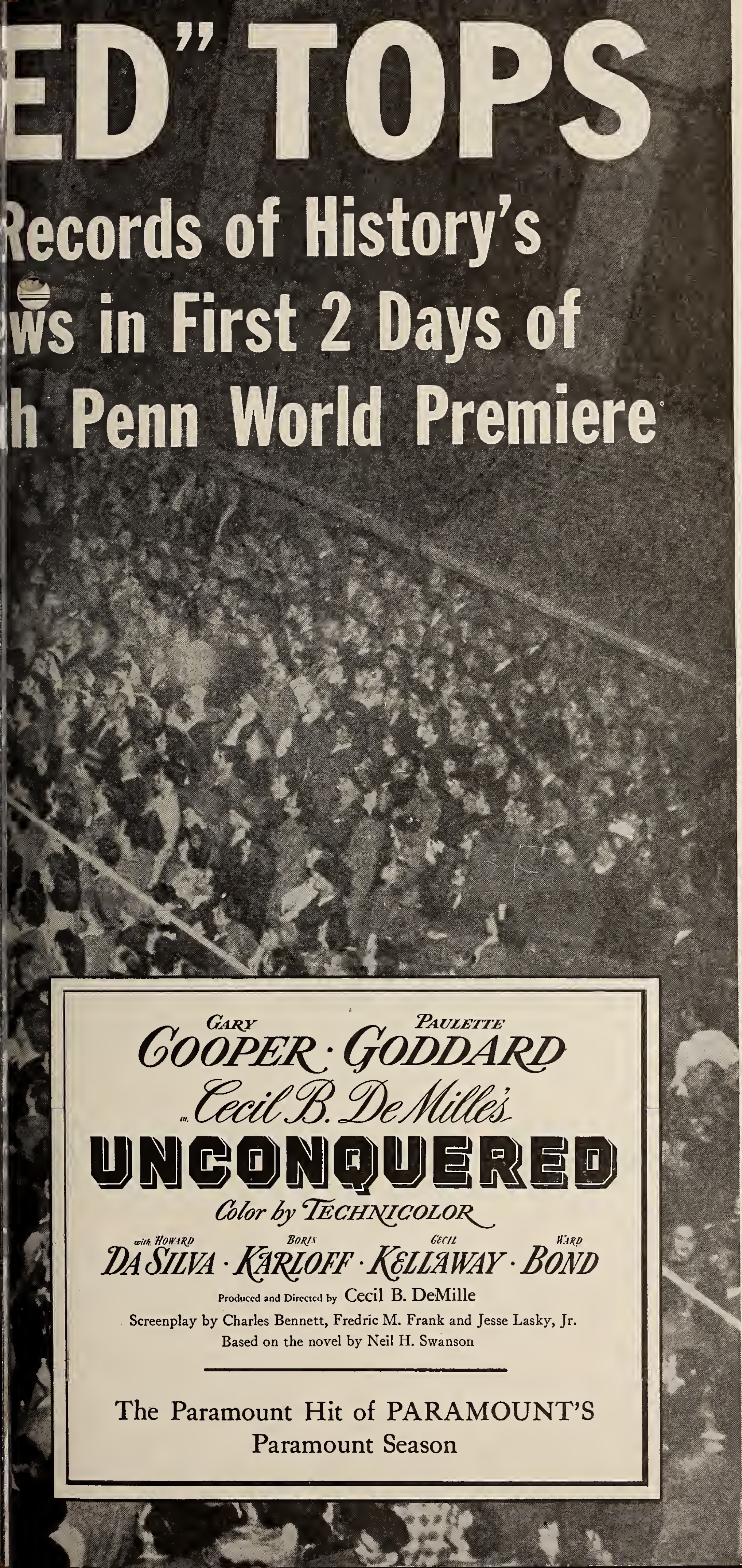

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Based on the novel by Neil H. Swanson

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Paramount Season

HEDDA

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And

LOLLY

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And

PITTSBURGH
AGREE—

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Business generally was poor, with but few exceptions. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 8:

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $18,300)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,300)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 8th week. Gross: $5,100. (Average: $11,400)

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,300)

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $9,600)

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,200)

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,300)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,300)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,400)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,600)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,600)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $7,000)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,300)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $7,500)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,700)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio) and UNDER THE TONTO RIM (RKO Radio)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,700)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio) and UNDER THE TONTO RIM (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,800)

MERTON OF THE MOVIES (M-G-M) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,900)

MERTON OF THE MOVIES (M-G-M) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,800)

MERTON OF THE MOVIES (M-G-M) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $21,200)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $21,000)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $15,000)

THE WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100)

THE WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100)

THE WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,300)

THE WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,900)

THE WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,400)

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Elmer Adams Wins Top Quigley Award

Elmer Adams, Jr., city manager for the Griffith circuit in Shawnee, Okla., was selected for top showmanship honors by the judges' committee in the third quarter "Quigley Awards Competition," ***Motion Picture Herald*** **will announce today. The victory entitles Adams to a silver plaque.**

The following showmen, listed alphabetically, were awarded scrolls of honor by the judges: A. J. Brown, Empire, Cardiff, Wales; Bill Brown, Poli-Bijou, New Haven; Ed May, Lincoln, Miami Beach; P. E. McCoy, Miller, Augusta, Ga.; Louis Nye, Hoosier, Whiting, Ind.; Willis Shaffer, Orpheum, Atchison, Kan.; Sol Sorkin, RKO Keith's, Flushing, N. Y. The special overseas citation was awarded to L. Stanley Hodnett, Gaumont Palace, Middlesbrough, England.

CLEVELAND

Return of summer weather, and a football game drawing 70,000 to the Stadium, cut into film attendance. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 7-8:

BAD MEN OF MISSOURI (WB reissue) and EACH DAWN I DIE (WB reissue)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). Stage: Tex Williams Band. Gross: $28,500. (Average with stage show: $35,000)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—WARNERS HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,250)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M) reissue)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,600)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,000)

NEW ORLEANS (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE RAIDERS (English)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $2,750)

'Unconquered' in Big Cincinnati Start

CINCINNATI, Oct. 9.—Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" grossed a terrific $9,400 in its first two days at the Capitol here. The picture opened Tuesday at $1.20 top. Previous two-day record holders here at advanced scales were "Duel in the Sun," with $7,400 and "Best Years," $7,300.

E-L Appoints Wir

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Latin American offices which E-L will have for distribution.

Wir, now in Mexico City, was previously manager and supervisor in several Latin American countries for United Artists and Republic, and more recently represented Universal-International in China. He is being assisted by Milton Yeoman, E-L manager of foreign branch operations.

E-L will start releasing in Mexico this month with "Bedelia," and has regular monthly commitments for the balance of its product, Seidelman declared. E-L has set a world premiere of "Adventures of Casanova" for four houses in Mexico City.

Meanwhile, the promotion of Lloyd Katz, former E-L San Francisco salesman to branch manager of that city, was announced here yesterday by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. Katz replaces Earl A. Stein, who recently resigned.

Other appointments announced by Schwalberg, prior to his departure on a tour of the company's 31 exchanges, are: Kenneth E. Siem, Milwaukee salesman; Martin Herman Seed, Cleveland salesman, and Elizabeth M. Bacon, booker-salesman, New Orleans.

Two of Three Censors Banned UA's 'Curley'

MEMPHIS, Oct. 9.—Mrs. Sid Law, one of the three members of the local Censor Board, said today she was busy moving and did not see the disputed UA-Hal Roach film, "Curley". A majority vote of the board is required to reject a film here so her admission placed responsibility for the ban on Lloyd T. Binford, 80-year-old chairman, and Hodges Honnoll, third board member. Honnoll said he saw the picture but declined to say what his position on it had been, "because the matter is in court now."

United Artists and Hal Roach Studios have brought suit to break the censorship ban against the $350,000 production and the board has been ordered to present a transcript of the meeting at which the decision to ban mixed white and Negro scenes was made.

SOPEG Strategy Meet On Wage Question

Members of the strategy committee of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, will meet here tomorrow to discuss further steps on SOPEG's request for a 30 per cent wage increase. SOPEG has rejected the companies' offer to extend the wage clause for 2,500 home office employes for one year, and has asked for arbitration.

SOPEG members took the issue to the public on Wednesday night by distributing leaflets in front of theatres in the Times Square area.

Operators Get 10% Rise

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 9.—Two-year contracts with the 'IA' projectionists' local here, providing for a 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to Sept. 1 when the previous two-year contract expired, have been agreed to by circuits and independents.

Miles in New Post

OTTAWA, Oct. 9.—Sam Miles has been named Western distribution supervisor of the National Film Board of Canada.

Sentenced on Film Copyright Charges

Joseph Mirasola has been fined $250 by Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind in the U. S. District Court, here, following a plea of guilty to each of seven counts charging him with copyright infringement of feature films.

Pictures involved are Loew's "Rio Rita" and "Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant"; Paramount's "Going [illegible] Way"; Warners' "Janie," and R[illegible]s "Allegheny Uprising," "Step Lively" and "Show Business." Mirasola is alleged to have exhibited the pictures at summer resorts.

He was fined the $250 on one count, to be paid within 30 days. Imposition of sentence on six other counts was suspended and he was put on probation for two years, subject to the standing probation of the court.

The case is one of those stemming from the drive undertaken last year by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in cooperation with the industry's Copyright Protection Bureau.

Toll, Rosenberg Join To Do 'Aurora Dawn'

Lionel Toll and Frank Rosenberg, recent additions to Hollywood producer ranks, have teamed together to form Colony Pictures with plans to produce "Aurora Dawn" for Eagle-Lion release.

Toll, former New York tradepaper man, said yesterday that Colony has purchased the Herman Wouk novel, a Book of the Month Club selection, for $75,000 and has been invited by E-L to release the production through that company. Toll's initial production was "Blonde Savage," now current.

Rosenberg, former Columbia advertising-publicity director, has in preparation his first production, "Man Eaters of Kumaon." Toll will leave here for the Coast on Monday.

AFL Holds Services For Joseph Padway

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 9.—Memorial service was held here today by the American Federation of Labor for Joseph A. Padway, 56, general counsel for the AFL and former counsel for the IATSE, the American Federation of Musicians and other AFL unions. Burial will be in Milwaukee, where Padway lived.

Padway died last night after suffering a stroke while addressing the 66th annual AFL convention here. Recently at a Hollywood Congressional labor hearing, Irving McCann, special counsel for the Congressional sub-committee, punched Padway after an angry verbal exchange.

Silas Little, 64

BALTIMORE, Oct. 9. — Silas Conn Little, 64, former treasurer of Ford's Theatre here died on Oct. 2, following a long illness. He retired from Ford's in Sept., 1946. His brother, John, is manager of the theatre.

Fight 'Cross' Ban

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 9.—A complaint charging that the state censor board's ban on "Burning Cross" is a subterfuge to prevent people from seeing a picture exposing the Ku Klux Klan was filed in Circuit Court here today by Robert P. Barton Jr., counsel for Screen Guild.

PARAMOUNT NEWS

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'Hollywood Can Take It,' Says Eyssell

Hollywood is fraught with problems —production and otherwise—but has what it takes to solve them and will come through unscathed. That is the impression G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, here, brought back after two weeks on the Coast where he looked at future product for the Hall.

"Cass Timberlane" is expected to follow "Song of Love" at the house, Eyssell said. The latter opened there yesterday. However, best contender thus far for the Christmas holiday program is M-G-M's "Good News," he said, adding that he expects "I Remember Mama" will open there late in January.

Eyssell had a good word for short subjects. He says good shorts are important to a theatre program, and believes they are here to stay despite the pessimism expressed over their future in some quarters.

Canada Dollar Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

conclusion of the trade talks at Geneva, and it is believed by Ottawa officials that the trade conference will end about mid-October.

Among the devices considered by Cabinet are understood to be curtailment of U. S. imports, a dollar loan in New York and devaluation of the Canadian dollar.

Many Ottawa observers who have watched the heavy inroads made in the $1,245,000,000 of reserves of gold and U. S. dollars with which Canada entered 1947 and who are predicting an adverse payments balance of about $1,000,000,000 with the United States this year feel that the Cabinet must take action on at least part of the conservation program within the next few weeks.

UK Tax Impasse

(*Continued from page* 1)

tors Association, that an American fact-finding commission be appointed and sent to London to investigate the overall situation. No conclusions were reached, it was said.

Participating in the three-hour-long conference today were: Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, George Borthwick, Edward Cheyfitz, Jack Cohn, J. Cheever Cowdin, Ned E. Depinet, Francis Harmon, Gerald Mayer, James E. Perkins, Nicholas M. Schenck, Samuel Schneider and Spyros P. Skouras.

Lewis W. Douglas, U. S. Ambassador to Britain, also sat in at the session for a brief time.

Nelson to Capital

(*Continued from page* 1)

with MPA president Eric Johnston, at an undetermined date, to London on the same matter.

Reports have repeatedly had SIMPP members applying for a Reconstruction Finance Corp. loan to finance new production, as Nelson has inferred. However, some RFC officials have denied any knowledge of such an application.

Nelson's decision to return to the Capital came today after a series of conferences, which started here yesterday, concerning "possibilities."

"Forever Amber"

(*Continued from page* 1)

berg production can provide her. She moves, accompanied by a succession of sharers of her favors who range from a highwayman, played by John Russell, to King Charles II of England, engagingly depicted by George Sanders. And appearing, disappearing and reappearing among the long succession of suitors of all ages and conditions is her No. 1 man, Cornel Wilde, father of her child without benefit of marriage, who ultimately weds another.

Not only that situation, nor the utter unfaithfulness and promiscuity of Amber disqualify this picture as family entertainment, even for precocious youth. The unmoral character of the story embraces murder, robbery, licentiousness, and metes out but little in the way of retribution.

AMBER, a foundling, runs away from the farm home of her foster parents, ostensibly in love with Wilde, a young nobleman, whom she follows to London after having seen him but once and then only briefly. Advised by their mutual friend, played by Richard Greene, that Wilde would not marry beneath his class, Amber determines to acquire title and wealth for herself. This determination appears to fit neatly with her ambition to acquire them, regardless.

Wilde leaves her in London for a career of privateering. She winds up in debtors' prison from which she escapes with Russell, who takes her to a thieves' hideout in London where, with screen attention, Wilde's son is born to her. She is a decoy for the highwayman until he is killed in a robbery. Thereupon, she takes up with Glenn Langan, into whose home she has fled to evade police.

Wilde returns to London from the seas and when Langan finds him with Amber, a duel is fought in which Langan is killed.

Meanwhile, she has gone on the stage and, after Langan's death, is married to a nobleman, played by Richard Haydn, whom she had met in the theatre. A year later, Wilde returns to plague-stricken London, is joined by Amber and nursed by her when he is taken with the plague. They are confronted by Amber's elderly husband soon after and Wilde makes another exit.

Presented at court by Haydn, Amber captures the interest of King Charles. Locked in her room by her irate husband, with the city of London afire, she is saved by a coachman who avails himself of the opportunity to kill the husband in revenge for mistreatment. Amber is free to take up residence in an apartment at the court.

WILDE returns to London once more, this time with an American bride, and seeks out Amber to ask her permission to adopt their son and take him to America. Amber endeavors to compromise Wilde's wife, played by Jane Ball, with the King. Her device, detected by both, fails. The King asks her to find other living quarters and, with her son having chosen to accompany the father to America, Amber turns to the next available pair of masculine arms, in this instance, those of the King's equerry, played by Robert Coote.

Not alone Amber, but most of the principal characters, are a shallow, unscrupulous lot. So the story makes them and so they emerge on the screen. They are not calculated to win or hold much audience sympathy. Otto Preminger's direction does nothing to frustrate that circumstance. Performances, with the exception of Sanders as the King, rarely rise above the adequate, and leave a story-book atmosphere surrounding most of the proceedings.

Sets and costumes are lavish and, in Technicolor, convey all the richness of the huge production expenditure involved. Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr., did the screenplay, from an adaptation by Jerome Cady. They have been faithful to the novel in projecting an unscrupulous female. Accompanying music is noteworthy.

Running time, 138 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date: October special.

SHERWIN KANE

Columbia Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

Jack Cohn, A. Montague, A. Schneider, J. McConville, Nate Spingold, Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Louis Astor, Irving Wormser, Maurice Grad, Leo Jaffe, George Josephs, H. C. Kaufman, Seth Raisler, Irving Sherman, Vincent Borelli, Joseph Freiberg, Sydney Singerman and William Brennan.

Also present will be branch managers, office managers and sales personnel of branches under the supervision of New England division manager Harry Rogovin, Mideastern division manager Sam Galanty, Central division manager Carl Shalit, New York division manager Nat Cohn and Southern New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania manager Harry Weiner.

Branches to be represented at the New York meetings are: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Washington.

Exchange personnel at the New Orleans meetings, to be held at the Hotel Roosevelt, will include managers and staffs of the branches headed by Southeastern division manager R. J. Ingram and Southwestern division manager J. B. Underwood. These are: Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, Memphis, New Orleans and Oklahoma City.

Personnel present at the San Francisco meeting, to be held at the St. Francis Hotel, will include those from exchanges headed by Midwestern division manager Ben Marcus and Western division manager Jerome Safron; these are: Denver, Des Moines, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Omaha, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle.

Warner Club Meet Set for Oct. 18

Annual meeting of the Warner Club will be held here on Oct. 18 at the home office, to be followed by the annual luncheon at the Hotel Astor.

The meeting will be attended by delegates from 11 cities, the widest WB representation since pre-war days.

Film Loans

(*Continued from page* 1)

First National Bank, Los Angeles, who is in New York on a business visit, said loans to producers made by that bank never have been made against foreign residuals, but always have been based on domestic returns.

He said that Security did not discontinue loans to independent producers following enactment of the British tax; that it has been making [illegible]ns "on a sound basis" to produce[illegible]r the past 10 years and will continue to do so.

'Second Money Scared Off'

Yousling conceded that production financing is going through "a period of adjustment" and that loans to some producers have not been available. However, he attributed this not to banks but to sources of second or end money, some of which, he believes, were scared off by foreign market developments."

Without the second money, some producers have been unable to complete bank loans. But, Yousling said, no difficulty is encountered if the producer can come into the bank with his end money, either his own or the backing of a producing or distributing company or some other established source.

"Costs are up and grosses are down somewhat," an Irving Trust Co. loan official observed. "That has made for a tightening up on loans. But every loan is an individual case. If it's a good one, I haven't heard of any bank that wouldn't be interested in making the loan."

Past Performance is Basis

Yousling said that "old and good customers of ours, those with a record of good pictures, produced at low cost and capable of getting back the investment in the domestic market, will continue to be served."

Officials of Bankers Trust, Guaranty Trust and others familiar with the production scene echoed that statement.

All conceded, however, that the second-money market is as tight today as it was the week after imposition of the British tax last August. They offered the opinion that there are quite a number of independent producers who need second money and can't get it and, because of that, can't get bank loans.

But, they said, if you have the second-money and are a good risk, no bank will turn you away.

UTA Supports TOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

to conduct a formal vote on affiliating with the Theatre Owners of America and to elect TOA board members. Southern California Theatre Owners Association, of which Paul Williams is general counsel, will convene in Los Angeles on Oct. 16; Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, president of which is Ben L. Strozier, will meet in Charlotte on Oct. 20.

Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, said here yesterday it is his understanding that Arthur Lockwood has been named to the TOA board by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut.

Coyne and Herman Levy, general counsel, met here yesterday informally on matters pertaining to the first TOA board meeting, planned for the latter part of this month, probably in Chicago due to its centralized location.

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Ascap Income Of 9-Millions All-Time High

Nine-Month Figure Is Cited by Deems Taylor

Collections by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for the nine months ended Sept. 30 hit a new all-time high for a like period, exceeding $9,000,000, Deems Taylor, president, told the organization's annual general membership meeting at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here. This represents an increase of more than $100,000 over the same period of 1946. Administrative costs are understood to run about 19½ per cent.

Taylor is reported as saying at the meeting, which was closed, that collections have been steadily mounting during the past several years. Ascap last August sought to justify its proposed 300 per cent increase in theatre music licensing fees on the ground of increased costs of operations.

No breakdown on the various

(*Continued on page* 11)

Golden State Deal Is Expected Today

San Francisco, Oct. 13.—Purchase of Golden State Theatres will probably be effected tomorrow when an option on the circuit recently acquired by Mike Naify from his two partners, Robert A. McNeil and Eugene Emmick, for $12,000,000, expires. Robert Lippert, operator of 30 theatres in this area, and Milton Reynolds, the pen man, are definitely in the deal, eager as ever.

Golden State and Fox West Coast

(*Continued on page* 11)

Slight Profit Drop for AA-Mono. in Year

Hollywood, Oct. 13.—Consolidated net profit of $375,895 for the 52 weeks ended June 28 for Monogram and Allied Artists is reported by Steve Broidy, president. This compares with $379,474 in the previous year. The 1947 net is equivalent to 49 cents per share on 760,718 common shares outstanding, as against 52 cents on 721,181 shares the previous year.

Gross income after deductions was $8,100,205, compared with $6,235,228 in the previous period. Present working capital is $2,226,217.

Cinecolor to Finance Laboratory Charges

Cinecolor Finance Corp., a newly-formed and wholly-owned subsidiary of Cinecolor Corp. of California, has been founded by the latter's board of directors to provide financing of laboratory charges for clients during production, and for the financing of release prints for the distributor.

A. Pam Blumenthal is president of Cinecolor. Other officers are: Chairman of the board, Kenneth C. Baxter, of the Donner Corp., banking house of Philadelphia; vice-president and treasurer, Karl Herzog, treasurer of Cinecolor and formerly vice-president and treasurer of the motion picture interests of Robert R. Young; secretary, Graham L. Sterling, Jr., of the law firm of O'Melveny and Myers.

Acting as a service organization, Cinecolor Finance Corp. will allow producers and distributors to take advantage of Cinecolor and relieve them of the necessity of putting up money that otherwise might be used in additional production.

Allied of Michigan Meeting in Detroit

Detroit, Oct. 13.—Ascap's theatre music license rate increases, admission taxes, increased admissions, trade practices and additional subjects were on the agenda of Allied Theatres of Michigan as the organization opened its annual convention here today.

National Allied will hold a two-day board meeting here, beginning tomorrow. National Allied president Jack Kirsch is due from Washington to attend both the state convention and the board meetings.

Tax on Admissions Proposed in N. Y.

The New York City Planning Commission proposes that the $20,162,924 needed for new schools be financed by special taxes authorized by the State Public Housing Law, under which a municipality may levy an admissions tax of four per cent along with various other taxes.

The commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday and adopt a budget on Oct. 31 for submission to the Board of Estimate and City Council.

Building Code Board May Call Exhibitors

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 13.—Theatremen who suggested changes in the new New York State building code at this year's public hearings are subject to call before the three-man State Labor Board for a clarification of their recommendations, official sources disclose here. The board is now reviewing the code preparatory to approving or disapproving it.

Coincidental with the arrival here from New York at the weekend of John Coggeshall, State Industrial Code referee, who served as special adviser at the hearings, three Board of Standards and Appeals engineers began an analysis of Coggeshall's suggested changes in the new code.

When the Labor Board, headed by William H. Roberts, approves the code it will be printed for distribution and is expected to be available in that form around Jan. 1.

Advise Straight Play on Assessments for Taxes

Kansas City, Oct. 13.—Straightforward disclosure to tax assessors by exhibitors, will, in most states, promote fair assessments. This is the conclusion drawn by many theatre owners following discussions on taxes at the recent Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association convention held here.

Most taxing bodies are trying to do an honest job, and doing it far more intelligently in many locations than years ago, it is held. Assessors are often receptive to being shown that theatres cannot be looked upon as comparable with other business properties, theatres having single occupancy, requiring great cost for conversion to other uses, and an average life of only about 20 years, thus depreciating rapidly. But assessors may be led to see that improvements, changes, new installations imparting new values tend to offset heavy depreciation figures which theatres deserve.

A new trend in assessing might well be promoted by theatres, namely, toward assessment of individual, real and personal property at more nearly the proportional values that business property receives; at present business bears a disproportionate share of tax loads.

MPA Invites CEA Leaders To Tax Talks

Johnston Asks Fuller, Davis Visit Oct. 25-30

Washington, Oct. 13. — Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, has cabled W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, president, an acceptance of their offer to come here to discuss with leaders of the American industry the full implications of the British economic situation as it affects importation of American films.

Johnston suggested that the two leaders of the C.E.A., Britain's exhibitor organization, plan their visit so that they may arrive here between Oct. 25 and 30.

Johnston assured the British leaders that he would be happy to have them

(*Continued on page* 11)

Britain Bars Film Loans to US Firms

London, Oct. 13.—The Treasury's instructions to the Bank of England under the Control Exchange Act which became effective Oct. 1 provide that American film companies are not permitted to borrow sterling from British sources for the production of films here, except with special sanction.

The whole purpose of the Board of Trade and Treasury action is that

(*Continued on page* 11)

Canada Film Exports Up, Imports Down

Ottawa, Oct. 13.—Canadian film exports rose again during August, from $195,000 in Aug., 1946, to $229,000 in Aug., 1947, while imports of films dropped, from $284,000 last year to $257,000 in August of this year.

Exports of films from Canada, according to the external trade branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce, have been running ahead of

(*Continued on page* 11)

Reviewed Today

"The Lost Moment" is reviewed today on page 2.

Personal Mention

HARRY COHN, Columbia president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will address the Kentucky Theatre Owners Association convention which will open in Louisville Oct. 22.

•

DANIEL T. O'SHEA and E. L. SCANLON of Vanguard Films are slated to return to Hollywood tomorrow from New York.

•

EVELYN BADER of the M-G-M business department, here, was married last Saturday to GERACO FALLO.

•

GRADWELL L. SEARS, president of United Artists, is back in New York from the Coast.

•

JAMES ALLEN, vice-president of Warner Pathe News, left here for the Coast Sunday.

•

GEORGE SCHARF of M-G-M's legal department left New York yesterday for Cincinnati.

Newsreel Parade

PROMINENT subjects in the newsreels are DeGaulle's denunciation of Communism and President Truman urging food conservation. Other items include the haven found for babies in China, the unveiling of a new flying jet-wing, ceremonies at the opening of "Unconquered" in Pittsburgh, and scenes of flood-devastated India. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 13—President Truman urges U. S. housewives to conserve food. Turkish chief of staff to tour U. S. King Paul of Greece visits war front on Yugoslav border. DeGaulle urges French to resist forces of Communism. Haven found for new-born girl babies in China. Prison rodeo. Schoolboy inventor of goofy gadget.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 211—President Truman warns nation Europe's plight is desperate. DeGaulle denounces Reds. Hero-dead homeward bound. Yugos release captive Yanks. Nazi poison gas destroyed. Jet flying-wing unveiled. Fastest plane tests guns. China's basket babies find haven.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 14—Howard Hughes back in spotlight. Film stars lead ceremonies at old Fort Pitt as "Unconquered" opens in Pittsburgh. Saar votes union with France. DeGaulle calls for unity against Communism. Churchill demands ouster of Labor Government. U. S. patents reach 2,500,000 mark.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 81—Floods devastate India. Tornado rips trailer camp at Jacksonville, Fla. Army Air Forces unwraps jet-wing bomber. Jet P-58 fighter planes demonstrate ability. China orphans saved. Texas prison rodeo. Green Bay tops Los Angeles Lambs. Rice ties Southern California.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 16—War dead returned. Political comebacks for Churchill and DeGaulle. Food abroad discussed. Russia frees prisoners of war. Chinese babies saved. Mongolian dances for youths.

Review

"The Lost Moment"

(Universal—Walter Wanger Prod.)

PROCEEDING at a leisurely pace, "The Lost Moment" is an interesting attraction endowed with dramatic merit and intelligence in treatment and performance. It tells a strange story which strains at credulity and poses a problem of audience acceptance on the score of complete believability. But if this is hurdled, the film should give considerable satisfaction. It deserves it.

Based on "The Aspern Papers", a novel by Henry James now relegated to the mists of time, the tale here deals with one of the great romances of the 19th century—that of Jeffrey Ashton, American poet of renown, and Juliana, Italian beauty—and his letters to her. Robert Cummings, publisher, is after those letters and goes to Venice and Juliana's house in search of them.

Posing as a young writer, he manages to engage rooms in the mysterious establishment. There, he finds Susan Hayward, young and attractive but strange and hostile; Juliana, aged 105 and played by Agnes Moorehead; a frightened maid, played by Joan Lorring, and an eerie atmosphere suggesting hidden secrets.

What develops is a case of split personality. Miss Moorehead is the actual Juliana who, it develops, had killed the never-seen Ashton many years earlier when she learned he had fallen in love with another. But Miss Hayward, reared as an orphan in that household and submitted to the Ashton influence since childhood, has come to believe she is Juliana. When she lives in the past, she is delicate and lovely. When she returns to the present, she is bitter and uncompromising.

In due time, Cummings learns the secret and also realizes he is in love with Miss Hayward. The parish priest, played by Eduardo Ciannelli, likewise realizes the hopelessness of her situation unless she can be torn from the unrealities of the past and projected into the realities of the present. He thinks Cummings can do this. When the letters are destroyed in an accidental fire, the genuine Juliana dies and the knot severed for Miss Hayward, whose real-life romance with Cummings becomes possible.

Average audiences face the possibility of confusion as well as believability here. But Martin Gabel's direction is careful, well-modulated and thoroughly competent. He has succeeded in developing suspense and tension in the beginning and a haunting tenderness in the succeeding love passages. Moreover, he has seen to it that his principal players avoid exaggeration and maintain their performances in a restrained key.

"The Lost Moment" is considerably above average, but the hope is that it will not be too far removed from plebeian taste. The nature of the drama, incidentally, indicates the exhibitor should make all effort to have audiences see it from the beginning.

Walter Wanger produced. Leonardo Bercovici wrote the script and is to be credited with a skilful job.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, November.

RED KANN

Gillette Takes WB Leave; Will Write

Don Gillette, trade press contact for Warner Brothers since 1941, and former trade paper editor, has been granted an indefinite leave of absence, starting Oct. 31, by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity.

Gillette will write a novel on carnival life.

TOA Tenders Aid For Food Program

Theatre Owners of America is "ready and willing" to assist in developing use of the nation's screens in behalf of President Truman's food conservation program.

Robert Coyne, TOA executive director, wired this offer of assistance to Spyros P. Skouras, member of the President's food conservation committee, at the weekend, and added that the TOA program committee will be "available on short notice to work with you."

Columbia Sales Meet Under Way Here

Columbia began the first of a series of three sales meetings yesterday at the Warwick Hotel here, with more than 90 delegates, comprising home office executives and members of the sales staffs of 15 branch offices, attending. A. Montague, general sales manager, presided.

Following the meeting here, which will run through Friday, further sales talks will be held in New Orleans Oct. 28-31, and San Francisco, Nov. 4-8.

Open Gulf Meeting To All Exhibitors

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 13.—Convention of Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States will be open to all exhibitors, with only one closed session for Allied members alone, it was announced here by Maurice J. Artigues, general manager.

The convention will be held here on Nov. 20 and 21, at the Jung Hotel.

WE Channel to Selznick

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—Selznick Studio has received its second 200-millimeter sound recording channel from Western Electric.

Sprague Treasurer Of 4 Bank Units

TORONTO, Oct. 13.—G. H. Sprague has been appointed treasurer of four J. Arthur Rank-controlled companies here, following the resignation of George H. Beeston from the Lawson-Rank group in Canada. The companies are: General Theatres Corp., Gaumont Kalee, Queensway Studios, and Hanson 16mm. Films, Ltd.

Beeston is now with the Paul L Nathanson interests.

Eckman Made 'CBE' By British Crown

LONDON, Oct. 13.—Sam Eckman, British managing director for Loew's-M-G-M, is in King Edward VIII's current Honour List. Eckman was created a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his services on behalf of the Royal Naval Film Corp.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N.Y. Showing!
M-G-M's
'LIVING IN A BIG WAY'
GENE KELLY
MARIE McDONALD
IN PERSON
'Bojangles'
BILL ROBINSON
KAY VERNON
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART • JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

"Will do your heart good."—*Hale, News*
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

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An Editorial from the Motion Picture Herald

GOLDEN SHADOWS

Today there seems to be one stable international fact, which is to say a lot of solid gold at Fort Knox. We have in this world of the motion picture some substantial treasure, too. At hand are data on one line of product,* with such titles as "Miracle on 34th Street," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "Mother Wore Tights," "The Foxes of Harrow" and the beglamoured "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile." The list is from a trove of rich promise, held in a stack of negative hardly higher than a man, and rating more per cubic foot than the fattest vault at Knox. There is a store of romance, adventure, high drama, bright with music, colour, tense with tragedies and triumphs, memories and hopes. From now till Christmas it will be unlocked and shared by the millions as it flows across the screen.

Terry Ramsaye

and of course it's* 20th *Century-Fox

Thank you, Mr. Ramsaye!

Your statement eloquently sums up the excitement that has permeated the entire industry over 20th's current and coming product.

Typical of the anticipation with which the motion picture world is looking toward 20th is the fact that, over a month before release date, "Forever Amber" was booked by more than 2,000 of the foremost theatres in the United States and Canada!

NO OTHER COMPANY HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO SAY THAT ABOUT ANY PICTURE IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF THE INDUSTRY!

The confidence of theatremen in the potentialities of "Forever Amber" will be matched by the succeeding attractions from the leading figure in the industry, 20th Century-Fox!

See the following pages . . . .

FOREVER THE WOMAN...
FOREVER AMBER!

Darryl F. Zanuck presents

Forever Amber

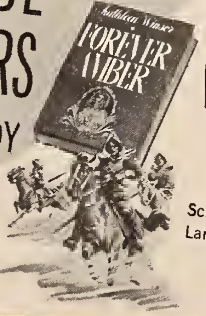
Color by TECHNICOLOR

Starring

LINDA DARNELL · CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE · GEORGE SANDERS

with as King Charles II

GLENN LANGAN · RICHARD HAYDN · JESSICA TANDY
ANNE REVERE · JOHN RUSSELL



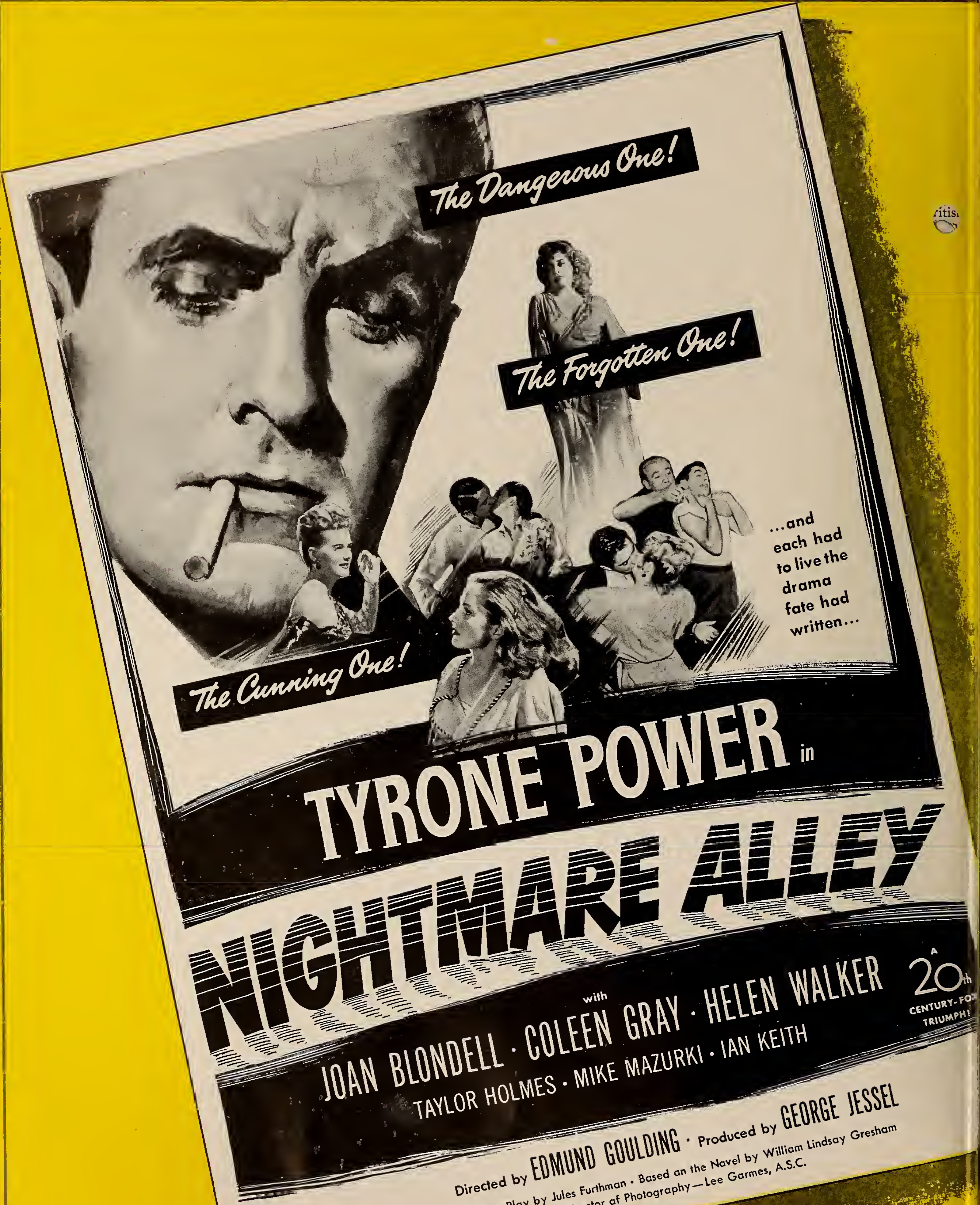
Directed by
OTTO PREMINGER

Produced by
WILLIAM PERLBERG

From the Novel by
Kathleen Winsor

Screen Play by Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr. · Adaptation by Jerome Cady

A 20th CENTURY-FOX Achievement!



The Dangerous One!

The Forgotten One!

The Cunning One!

...and each had to live the drama fate had written...

TYRONE POWER in

NIGHTMARE ALLEY

with

JOAN BLONDELL · COLEEN GRAY · HELEN WALKER

TAYLOR HOLMES · MIKE MAZURKI · IAN KEITH

Directed by EDMUND GOULDING · Produced by GEORGE JESSEL

Screen Play by Jules Furthman · Based on the Novel by William Lindsay Gresham

Director of Photography—Lee Garmes, A.S.C.

A 20th CENTURY-FOX TRIUMPH!

These Three Together...

...and a love only two can share!

SHE GAVE THE LEAST WHEN SHE LOVED THE MOST!

JOAN CRAWFORD · DANA ANDREWS · HENRY FONDA

Daisy Kenyon

RUTH WARRICK · MARTHA STEWART · with PEGGY ANN GARNER · CONNIE MARSHALL

Nicholas Joy · Art Baker · Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER

Screen Play by David Hertz · Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

A 20th CENTURY-FOX ROMANTIC HIT!

DAISY KENYON

Elizabeth Janeway

A WHOLE
NEW WORLD
OF ADVENTURE
LAY BEFORE
THEIR SWORDS
OF CONQUEST!

Darryl F. Zanuck
PRESENTS

CAPTAIN from CASTILE

Color by Technicolor

STARRING

TYRONE POWER

with
JEAN PETERS
CESAR ROMERO
JOHN SUTTON · LEE J. COBB
Antonio Moreno · Thomas Gomez · Alan Mowbray · Barbara Lawrence · George Zucco · Roy Roberts · Marc Lawrence
Directed by **HENRY KING** · Produced by **LAMAR TROTTI** · Screen Play by Lamar Tratti
From the Novel by Samuel Schellabarger

A
20th
CENTURY-FOX
MAGNIFICENT
EPIC!

. . . . and Coming!

OLIVIA deHAVILLAND

"THE SNAKE PIT"

also starring **Mark Stevens and Leo Genn**

JUNE HAVER

"SUMMER LIGHTNING"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

with **LON McCALLISTER**

JAMES STEWART

"CALL NORTHSIDE 777"

DANA ANDREWS · JEAN PETERS

"DEEP WATER"

LINDA DARNELL

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO"

JEANNE CRAIN · DAN DAILEY

"THE FLAMING AGE"

"GREEN GRASS OF WYOMING"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

Starring **PEGGY CUMMINS · CHARLES COBURN · LLOYD NOLAN**

DAN DAILEY

"GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

20th CENTURY-FOX

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Czech Operations by MPEA 'Impressive'

Some 65 additional features of Motion Picture Export Association member companies and an equal number of shorts have been exhibited on Czechoslovakian screens during the past year, the MPEA disclosed here at the weekend in a summary of its first year of [illegible]ations in that country.

[illegible]ommenting on what was described as an "impressive" record, Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, predicted that 1947-48 business in Czechoslovakia "will attain at least the same levels" as those reached in 1946-47, and indicated "a strong probability" that MPEA activities in that country would be supplemented early next year by a 16mm. release program which is now in the final stages of planning.

Britain Bars Loans

(*Continued from page 1*)

American companies should utilize their accumulated profits here in film-making, and should not be permitted to borrow British money for that purpose.

The status of American profits of such British-made films has not been clarified yet. Several American authorities here feel that some obscure provisions of the Act might be construed to give the Treasury power to force the return to England of profits of such pictures.

F. W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of American representative here, has asked the Treasury formally for clarification of that point but so far as is ascertainable no official elucidation has yet been given.

Now
"the Hollywood"
United's new DC-6 Mainliner
300 flight
OVERNIGHT TO LOS ANGELES!
Lv. 11:30 p.m.....ar. 7:46 a.m.
UNITED
AIR LINES
Airlines Terminal, 80 E. 42nd St. or
Pennsylvania Hotel or 1 Wall St.
Call Murray Hill 2-7300
or an authorized travel agent

WANTED
Assistant for Film Buyer and Booker familiar with Circuit Operation and capable of taking dictation. BOX 394
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 6th Ave. New York 20, N.Y.

MPA Invites

(*Continued from page 1*)

come here and talk to him and other leaders of the American industry.

The Fuller-Davis mission, according to London advices, has the unofficial "blessing" of Britain's Board of Trade, which will make all necessary arrangements for their journey. For this reason, it is generally assumed that if their conferences here are successful, much may be accomplished in preparing the way for a compromise agreement ending the British confiscatory tax on imported films and the consequent American film embargo.

Prior to their arrival, Johnston will have had conferences with Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and a projected meeting of the MPA board of directors to be held here perhaps sometime next week may have been held. Both of these may further prepare the groundwork for definitive accomplishments following the arrival of Fuller and Davis, it is believed.

In any event, the projected meeting of the British exhibitor leaders with heads of the American industry is certain to be useful to Johnston and Nelson in preparation for their expected trip to London in early November, at which time final decisions are expected to be reached.

Canada Exports

(*Continued from page 1*)

last year in the first eight months of 1947, rising to $2,206,000 in this period, compared with $1,752,000 during the same period last year. In the last full peacetime year, in 1938, exports from Canada amounted to $215,000 in August and totaled $2,758,000 in the first eight months of that year ended in August.

Film imports in the Canadian market, despite the August drop, increased to $1,837,000 in the first eight months of 1947, compared with $1,711,000 in the same period last year.

Ascap Income

(*Continued from page 1*)

sources contributing to the total income was given by Taylor, nor was any mention made of the planned increase in motion picture theatre rates.

It is generally understood that radio accounts for about two-thirds of Ascap's revenue, film theatres provide a little above one-ninth, or about $1,500,000 annually, with the remainder coming from dance halls, cabarets, legitimate houses and others.

Other speakers at Friday's meeting included John O'Connor (not to be confused with the Universal-International vice-president of the same name) who advised he would not be a candidate for reelection, next spring, as a board member.

Herman Pincus, writer-member, raised objections to the society's method of distributing collected funds. Royalty payments, he said, are based on six factors—number of performances of songs contributed to the Ascap repertoire by the writer, seniority of works (length of time the music is in the repertoire), nature, character, prestige and vogue. Pincus raised the point that the last four are intangibles so far as determining the writer's rating.

George E. Meyer, board chairman, is understood to be drafting a plan under which performances and seniority will be primarily considered.

28 Drive-ins for Southern Circuit

CHARLESTON, S. C., Oct. 13.—Twenty-eight drive-ins in the Carolinas will be operated by the newly-organized Everett Enterprises Drive-in Theatre Corp., formed by H. H. Everett, head of Everett Enterprises circuit; Hank D. Hearn, head of Exhibitor's Service, and Worth Stewart, associated with Everett.

Hearn, who will be general manager, disclosed that a franchise and option arrangement has been worked out with Park-In Theatres, Inc., of Camden, N. J., giving the new company exclusive rights to operate drive-ins in specified locations.

Hearn added that construction on the Kannapolis-Concord, Winston Salem, Raleigh and Charleston projects will begin immediately. Each will cost nearly $100,000.

Whaddya Suppose They Talked About?

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13. — Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, was a luncheon host at MPA headquarters here on Saturday to Sir Sidney Clift, Sir Alex King, Mark Ostrer and Murray Silverstone. The first two have important British theatre interests; Ostrer operates J. Arthur Rank's Gaumont-British circuit and Silverstone is head of 20th Century-Fox's foreign distribution.

The visiting Britishers were dined by company heads in New York last Wednesday, at which time Sir Alex proposed a compromise on the British film tax which was rejected forthwith by those present.

2 Millions Set for Circuit Expansion

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 13.—A capital investment of over $2,000,000 has been made by Edwards Theatres for an expansion program, it is disclosed here by James Edwards, Jr.

Several new theatre locations have been purchased by the 22-theatre circuit. Some 15 acres have been secured near El Monte for an 800-car drive-in, and the company is closing for a site in the Puente area on which a 1,092-seat theatre will be built.

Golden State Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

officials refused comment on a reported purchase by George Skouras. According to reliable sources, the circuit will probably go to either Lippert-Reynolds or Skouras.

Tremendous number of corporations in GS with almost each of 116 houses having several partners, makes a complete sale difficult. Acquisition by Naify would impose gigantic responsibilities on him. Consensus is that Naify will join his partners in selling.

Report Return of Reynolds Option Money

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—A spokesman for Milton Reynolds, millionaire pen manufacturer, disclosed over the weekend that the $12,000,000 offer of his interests for purchase of Golden State Theatres had been at least temporarily rejected with Reynolds' $250,000 deposit returned. According to the spokesman, Reynolds is still interested in the circuit and is willing to reopen negotiations at any time.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY
TERRITORIES ONLY
"CASS
TIMBERLANE"
Tuesday, October 28
2 P. M.
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 Ninth Ave., N. Y. C.

Original Stories for Product Drop 75%

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—The bottom has fallen out of Hollywood's original story market, a studio-wide survey conducted by David Stephenson, Eagle Lion's story editor, revealed here today. But, just as soon as writers become aware that production costs are now the major factor in making pictures and shape their yarns to fit limited sets and wardrobes, the market for originals will start to rise, he added.

Stephenson found that the market for originals dropped more than 75 per cent in the past six months.

Prior to the slump, 20 per cent of the average studio's film output was derived from original stories purchased from persons not on the studio payroll, and an additional eight per cent from originals written by contract writers.

Film adaptations of published novels, short stories and printed articles accounted for 47 per cent of the total pictures produced, purchase of stage plays equaled 12 per cent, and remakes of old pictures comprised the remaining 13 per cent.

Martin Mooney To Make 6 on His Own

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—Martin Mooney has quit his Columbia producership. He made four films for the studio and claims he had an option to do four more. He is planning to make six pictures annually independently.

'U's Annual Report Is Cited as the 'Best'

Annual report of Universal Pictures to stockholders and employes has won the "Oscar of Industry" trophy as the best report issued in the industry. S. Machnovitch, Universal treasurer, accepted the trophy on behalf of the company at the Annual Report Awards Banquet at the Annual Pennsylvania Friday evening.

Report was lauded for the "effective way in which J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, and N. J. Blumberg, president, presented the results of the year's operations, including a summary of the reasons for the basic stability of the motion picture industry."

Suit Against Maynard

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—A $250,000 damage suit has been filed in Federal district court here against Ken Maynard in connection with the Larry Sunbrock Rodeo, in which Maynard stars. John Weese, who operates stables outside of Washington and is a former Western rider, filed the action. He claims that a picture of himself, on his horse, Bob White, has been used in advertising the rodeo, but with the name of Maynard or Joe Evans, also in the show, under the picture.

Delay Standby Meeting

Next meeting here between representatives of Local No. 802, American Federation of Musicians, and of the Capitol, Paramount and Strand theatres, on the question of standby clauses under the Taft-Hartley act, has been postponed to Friday.

Rosen, Houlihan in 20th-Fox Promotions

Joseph B. Rosen, branch manager of the Albany exchange, has been promoted by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, to head the Cincinnati branch, succeeding Leavitt J. Bugie, resigned. Daniel R. Houlihan, salesman in Albany exchange, has been promoted to branch manager there.

Rosen joined 20th Century-Fox in Oct., 1942, and was appointed Albany branch head in Nov., 1946. Houlihan has been with the company since 1934, in various capacities in the sales force.

$300,000 for 'Money Man'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—Producer Arthur Lyons has purchased Thomas Costain's "Money Man" for $300,000 as a Technicolor vehicle for Ida Lupino and Louis Hayward. Production will start following completion of Lyons' "Prelude to Night," now shoot-

$550,000 for Building

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Building housing the 1,657-seat Vogue Theatre, operated by Essaness Theatres, has been sold by the Trust Company of Chicago, trustee, to the Coniglio Corp. for a reported $550,000. A northside landmark, Essaness will continue operation of the theatre.

Reception for O'Keefe

Dennis O'Keefe, star of "T-Man," will be honor guest at a reception and press interview to be given by Eagle-Lion tomorrow afternoon at the Sherry Netherlands Hotel here.

'Variety Girl' Raises $207,214 for Charity

"Variety Girl" premieres in 23 cities have raised $207,214, it was disclosed at the weekend by R. J. O'Donnell and John H. Harris, international Chief Barker and Big Boss, respectively, of Variety Clubs International. The amount raised in each city will be retained by the local tent sponsoring the premiere and placed in its charity fund.

Original idea for the premieres is the outgrowth of a plan worked [illegible] by O'Donnell for the clubs and Charles Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, for the company.

Foote, Cone, Belding To Handle 'Velvet'

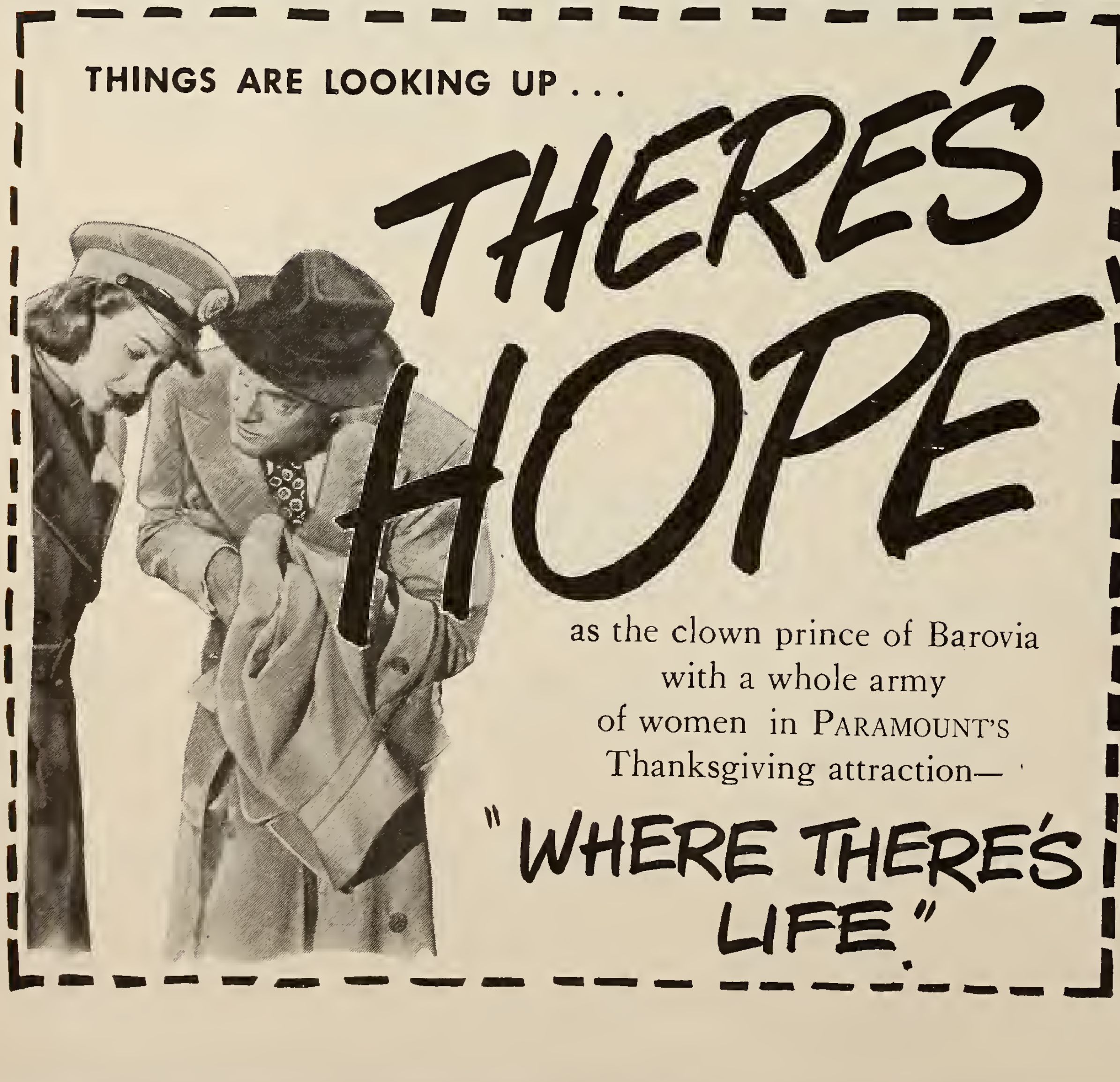
Frederick Brisson, executive producer for Independent Artists, Inc., has appointed the Foote, Cone and Belding advertising agency to handle the campaign on Rosalind Russell's "The Velvet Touch." This is the first to be produced by the new company which Miss Russell, Dudley Nichols and Brisson recently organized and will be released through RKO Radio. One of the highest budgets of the year is being allocated for the campaign which will encompass trade papers, national magazines, newspapers, radio, outdoor and television.

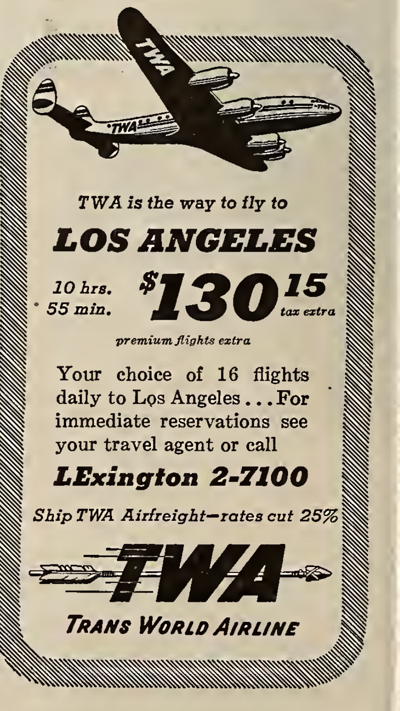
Seek High Court Writ In Jackson Pk. Case

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—The five major distributing companies filed an appeal with the Supreme Court for a writ of *certiorari* in the Jackson Park, Chicago, treble-damage anti-trust suit. The appeal is from a ruling by the Seventh Circuit Court which gave the Jackson Park injunctive relief and monetary damages in connection with the distribution setup in Chicago.

A. W. Johnson Sells

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—A. West Johnson, pioneer theatre operator of Eugene, Ore., head of Helig Mayflower State Theatres, announces the sale of a major interest in the houses to Western Amusement Co., headed by Forman Brothers, effective yesterday.

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V[illegible] 62. NO. 74 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1947 TEN CENTS

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20 in Backlog Of UA; Cost $32,000,000

Includes 4 from RKO At 5 Millions: Sears

By GENE ARNEEL

United Artists' board of directors, meeting here yesterday, approved a deal for the purchase of four productions from RKO Radio, at a cost of $5,000,000, giving the company a product inventory of 20 finished features having a total negative cost of $32,000,000. Additionally, the board approved distribution deals for five forthcoming independent productions.

At the meeting, UA president Gradwell L. Sears, stressed the stable position of the company product-wise, both from present backlog and future prospects.

It was disclosed at yesterday's

(*Continued on page 6*).

M. Naify Now Wholly Owns Golden States

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—Michael Naify, owner of T. and D. Enterprises, today acquired full ownership of Golden State Theatres for $12,000,000, having acted on his purchase option on the eve of its expiration. On Aug. 22, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported that Naify had secured the option to buy the 104-theatre circuit, in which he held a partnership.

Bidders Skouras Metropolitan Theatres and Milton Reynolds and Robert Lippert were cancelled out of the running in favor of Naify who purchased controlling stock from his partners, Robert McNeil and Eugene Emmick.

MPA, SIMPP Set Meet on UK Tax

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14. — A joint meeting of the Motion Picture Association board and top officials of the Society of Independent Motion Producers will be held here, probably next week, to work out final details of an industry-wide stand on the British tax problem.

This was a major step discussed today in two meetings between presi-

(*Continued on page 6*)

AFL Council Rules Against IA; Fight Now to Convention

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor has ordered the IATSE to settle the Hollywood jurisdictional dispute by complying with the so-called clarification ruling in favor of the Carpenters union.

IATSE officials, however, say they will defy the executive council's order and will carry the fight to the floor of the AFL convention here some time this week, providing such a move is deemed necessary.

The matter may go to the convention floor, regardless, inasmuch as it appears that the executive council will ask the convention to make the order mandatory.

William Hutcheson, Carpenters' union president, and John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers president, teamed together but met overwhelm-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Branch Raps Ascap, Roadshows at Meet

By DIRK COURTENAY

DETROIT, Oct. 14.—Michigan Allied's session opened here today with Ray Branch, president, criticizing the small attendance and emphasizing that the principal reason the independent operator is a victim of many

(*Continued on page 7*)

Coast Labor Drop Reflects UK Tax

Hollywood, Oct. 14. — Reflecting the first indications of studio employment layoffs following the Aug. 6 imposition of the British ad valorem tax, the California Bureau of Labor reports that the August studio labor index was 31 per cent under Aug., 1946.

The payroll index for August was 221 per cent, which compares with 246.6 per cent for July, the figures being based on the 1940 level of 100 per cent.

Film Sales Off in Second '47 Quarter

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 14.—Film company sales during the second 1947 quarter as reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission here amounted to $198,687,000, compared with $217,550,000 in the first 1947 quarter, and $195,705,000 in the second quarter a year ago.

While most major companies showed a slight business decrease in the second three-month period of this year as compared with the first three months, Universal, Monogram and Republic showed slight gains.

Following is a breakdown of figures of eight production companies: Col-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Solon Finds Films Best Fitted to Aid U. S. Abroad

Will Set 'Dolphin' Terms After Tests

M-G-M has plans for test engagements of "Green Dolphin Street" in seven as yet unspecified first - run Loew theatres, at roadshow prices, to determine terms on which the film will be sold generally. Advanced admission scales will be part of the selling policy if the show scores in the seven tests.

"Dolphin" will open at the Criterion here today but that run will be no test since the theatre regularly charges a $1.20 top.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—American motion pictures are in a position to strike a greater blow for freedom and democracy than any other segment of American industry, according to Rep. Karl Mundt, chairman of a Congressional sub-committee just returned from a month's survey of United States information activities in Europe.

Mundt said the film industry could do this without any Government control or subsidy, too. Declaring that all Europe is viewing American motion pictures—"Even the Communists can't keep them out in the Iron-Curtain countries"—the South Dakota Republican advocated that the industry take two steps to aid the Government's efforts to sell democracy in Europe:

1—Set up a special "Hays office"

(*Continued on page 6*)

US Refuses to Take Action Against Ascap

Claims Theatres Haven't Made Use of '41 Decree

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The Department of Justice will take no action against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers despite numerous exhibitor petitions to do so which have been sent to the Department since Ascap announced its proposed 300 per cent increase in theatre music licensing fees in late August.

It was learned today that the Department is advising exhibitor complainants against Ascap of its decision to this effect.

The Department contends that in entering the 1941 consent decree

(*Continued on page 7*)

TOA Board Agenda, Meeting Dates Set

Industry problems highlighting the Ascap situation, advanced admissions and distributor-exhibitor relations will come up for discussion at the first board meeting of the new Theatre Owners of America, now set for Nov. 7-8 at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago.

Yesterday, TOA headquarters here urged all affiliated organizations which have not yet delegated meeting representatives to act promptly. Meanwhile, word was received by TOA executive director Robert W. Coyne from the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Rhode Island that E. M.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Tri-States Votes To Join TOA

MEMPHIS, Oct. 14.—Tri-States Theatre Owners, representing theatre owners in Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi, today voted to affiliate with Theatre Owners of America, the new organization which emerged from the consolidation of American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. Tri-States opened its convention today at the Hotel Chicsa here with an address by Ted R. Gamble, TOA president, who called upon the film

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

VICTOR SAVILLE and MRS. SAVILLE will leave here Friday for Hollywood.

•

AL TAMARIN, United Artists publicity manager, and FRED N. POLANGIN, Enterprise Eastern publicity director, are due in Chicago today from New York.

•

PHILIP H. WILLKIE, son of the late WENDELL L. WILLKIE and well-known in industry circles, was graduated from Columbia University Law School last week.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, is in St. Louis from New York and will visit Milwaukee and Chicago before returning here.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, will return here today from Albany and Gloversville, N. Y.

•

HERBERT I. BROWN, manager of the Kameo Theatre, Pittsfield, Mass., has taken over operation of the house from JACK ROBBINS of Marlboro.

•

HARRY SHERMAN, Enterprise producer, and DAVE A. EPSTEIN, Coast publicist, are back in Hollywood from New York.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is due back in New York tomorrow from Detroit.

•

SAM SHIRLEY, special M-G-M home office sales representative, is due in town tomorrow from the Coast.

•

O. O. DULL, M-G-M producer, and BILL PARKS are due in Washington tomorrow from the Coast.

•

J. K. MCGUINNESS, M-G-M studio executive, and his wife will fly to New York Friday from Hollywood.

•

LEON COHEN, foreign film distributor, returned here by plane at the weekend from Europe.

•

COMPTON BENNETT, British director, is due here tomorrow from Hollywood en route to England.

•

CEDRIC GIBBONS, M-G-M art director, and MRS. GIBBONS are due here from the Coast tomorrow.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, has returned to Hollywood from Shreveport, La.

•

SID ROGELL, RKO Radio producer, is due here today from Mexico City.

•

PAT O'BRIEN will leave for the Coast today from New York.

•

NAT HOLT, RKO Radio producer, is in New York from the Coast.

•

MITCHELL LEISEN, Paramount director, is in town from the Coast.

Mexico Forms Unit To Foster Industry

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—A national motion picture commission has been created in Mexico to improve and develop the Mexican motion picture industry, according to a disclosure made today by Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Department of Commerce motion picture consultant.

Golden says that although the Presidential resolution setting up the commission has not yet been published in the *Diario Oficial*, it is believed that the resolution is already in effect, especially since members of the commission have already been appointed.

The general functions assigned the newly-formed commission may be summarized as follows, Golden said: to promote quality production, to foster domestic and foreign markets for Mexican films, to determine the need for new theatres, and to take steps toward establishing essential ones.

The commission will also supervise the production of educational films to exhibit to the public, as well as educational shorts for use by the federal and state governments. Studies and investigations will be made concerning various branches of the industry, and the commission will serve as an advertising and propaganda agency for the Mexican film industry.

The commission will be financed by subsidies from the Federal government, the federal district government, and from the Banco Nacional Cinematografico, by contributions from film distribution firms in which the bank has participation, and by proceeds from the educational films.

$250,000 Damage in Blaze on 20th Lot

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—Equipment and props with an estimated value of $250,000 were destroyed this afternoon when a fire, caused by a spark from a generator, swept the 20th Century-Fox back lot. For a while the costume studio was also threatened, but the fire was brought under control by five fire companies. The conflagration occurred during the filming of "Deep Water."

WB Coast Confabs

Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, will leave New York today for the Coast, where he will hold a series of conferences with Louis J. Halper, West Coast zone manager.

Kalmine also will join Ben Kalmenson, Warner vice-president and general sales manager; Samuel Schneider, vice-president, and Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, in studio parleys with Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer.

Gallegos in Television

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—Danile Gallegos, former Undersecretary of War for Costa Rica, has been appointed assistant manager of the Latin American department of American Television Laboratories of California.

Hope to End House Probe in 2 Weeks

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The House Un-American Activities Committee is understood to hold hopes of finishing its probe of Hollywood in two weeks, using four to five witnesses per day. Not all of those mentioned in the original subpoena list will be called to testify. On the other hand, there will be surprise witnesses whose names will be withheld until the last minute.

The committee is playing its cards close in advance of its Hollywood probe, which opens on Oct. 20, and is attempting to close every avenue which might cause the hearing to run away like the recent Senate investigation of Howard Hughes and wartime plane contracts.

The committee is apparently willing to sacrifice some of its witnesses and some of its testimony in order to control proceedings from start to finish, it is said, and committee members are keeping silent on whatever films may be mentioned during the course of the sessions.

The attitude appears to be that there is no quarrel with the studios. The committee is said to feel that Communist infiltration is strongest among the writers and that there is some among the directors and actors. Some insiders here say efforts will be made to show that specific films have had pro-Communistic lines and situations inserted.

John G. Bolte, 59, N. Y. Exhibitor

John C. Bolte, 59, an exhibitor for more than 30 years, died here yesterday. Surviving are the widow, Louise, two daughters, Edith and Marjorie Anne, and a son John C., Jr.

Bolte was a member of the board of directors and sergeant-at-arms of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York. He operated the Wakefield, Laconia, Kimball, Burke and Decatur in the Bronx, and was also interested in the Schuyler, Parkway, Monroe and Eagle in this area. Funeral services will be held at St. Paul's Evanglelical Lutheran Church, at Parkchester, Bronx, tomorrow evening.

Stromberg - E-L Deal Now in Negotiation

Negotiations are continuing here between Arthur B. Krim, Eagle Lion president, and Hunt Stromberg, producer, for a releasing and production financing deal involving several pictures. A decision is expected within the week.

At present, Stromberg is under contract to United Artists, but it is understood, the contract permits him to engage in outside production.

To Direct Industry Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—Delmer Daves has been appointed to direct "Film Directors," first in a series of industry-sponsored shorts to bring the story behind the industry before the public. Bernard Carr will direct the second subject, "What Oscar Really Means."

Newsreel Parade

AMERICA's overseas war dead being returned here for burial is a feature of all current reels. Also spotlighted are last Saturday's outstanding football games, recent Palestine developments, and happenings in Japan and Holland. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 14—H[illegible] war dead brought home to final resting place. Largest occupation family in Japan. Mrs. MacArthur and girl scouts. Tyrone Power in South Africa. Holland's royal family. U. S. favors plan for partitioning of Palestine. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 212—U. S. backs Palestine. Netherlands Queen retires; baby princess christened. First war dead brought home to final resting place in U. S.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 15—War dead come home. Christening of new princess in Holland. U. S. backs Palestine partition. Football: Texas vs. Oklahoma, Army vs. Illinois.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 82—War dead returned from overseas. U. S. backs proposed partitioning of Palestine. Refugees' ships seized by British at Haifa. "GI" greets family of nine. Mrs. MacArthur made honorary girl scout at Tokyo jamboree. Yale upsets Columbia at New York. Texas beats Oklahoma.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 17—Pupils escape in high school fire. War dead arrive in U. S. Holland's princess baptized. Milk for Greek kids. Football: Army vs. Illinois, Yale vs. Columbia, Texas vs. Oklahoma.

W.A.Finney, 64, Loew Operator, in Florida

ATLANTA, Oct. 14.—W. A. Finney, 64, former director of Loew's Theatres in the Southeast, died on Saturday at a private hospital in Daytonia Beach, Fla., following an illness of several months.

Finney joined Loew's in 1907 after being with the Amsterdam Theatre in New York. He was first manager of the old DeGive Opera House, now the Grand in Atlanta. He was active until failing health forced his retirement last January, when he went to his summer home at Daytonia Beach.

Finney is survived by the widow, Cora Mae. Funeral service was conducted in Daytonia Beach.

Chas. Casey, Former Circuit Operator

Charles E. Casey, 63, pioneer circuit operator with Irwin Wheeler in the old Casey and Wheeler Theatres, died on Sunday at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ella Casey, in Pittsfield, Mass. She is his only survivor. Services were held yesterday in Lee, Mass.

Casey had been in retirement and was living at Coral Gables, Fla.

Michael Keegan Dies

LEONIA, N. J., Oct. 14.—Michael Keegan, father of Emmett Keegan of the *Motion Picture Herald's* advertising department, died at his home here yesterday.

He is also survived by the widow, Florence, and by two other sons, Jack, who is general manager of Northio Theatres, and Loton, and a daughter, Mrs. Eileen Smith. Services, to be held here tomorrow, will be private.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue. Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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Based on the Novel
by Elizabeth Goudge

Directed by
VICTOR SAVILLE
Produced by
CAREY WILSON

NY 1st Run Grosses Big; 'Unconquered' Sets Rivoli Record

Some choice new product, healthy holdovers and a long holiday weekend are making for one of the most commercially exciting weeks in several months at New York first runs. Outside of a few instances of mediocre returns, business in the main is tremendous.

"The Unconquered" is making history at the Rivoli, a focal point of much exhibitor interest because of increased admission prices. During the week the house opens at $1.20 and puts up the $1.80 shingle at 6 P.M. The weekend opening is the same, changing to $1.25 at noon, to $1.50 at 3 P.M., and to $1.80 a six. And the income has been record-shattering, amounting to an estimated $55,000 for Friday through Monday, the largest figure for a like period on the books of the house. Total for the first week is likely to exceed $72,500.

'Pink Horse' Rides High

"Ride the Pink Horse" is doing splendidly at the Winter Garden where the first week's gross probably will hit $42,000. Plenty strong, too, is "Song of Love" at the Music Hall, where, with a stage show, the first week's take is put at a robust $144,000. The show drew $111,400 Thursday through Monday.

"Magic Town" is a potent newcomer at the Palace with an initial week's $29,000 gross apparent. "Nightmare Alley" is on its way to a handsome $36,000 in a first week at the Mayfair.

"Hungry Hill," at the Park, looks good for $10,000 for a first week of a run. "The Unsuspected" and Blue Barron's orchestra are a good combination at the Strand, where the second week's figure is estimated at $48,000.

Impressive business also continues at the Roxy, where "The Foxes of Harrow," teamed with Milton Berle and others on stage, probably will rake in $118,000 for a third week; "Forever Amber" is next, opening on Oct. 22. "Life With Father" is holding up nicely at the Warner, the ninth week's revenue being estimated at $30,000.

"Mitty' Still Strong at $34,000

At the Astor, "Secret Life of Walter Mitty" continues to be a competent box-office performer with $34,000 indicated for a ninth week. An estimated $25,000 for the third week of "Fun and Fancy Free" at the Globe is profitable. "Gone with the Wind" scored nicely in its last four days at the Criterion on a $20,000 gross, and is to be replaced today by "Green Dolphin Street."

The second week of "Spirit of West Point" should bring in a nice $19,000 at the Victoria, while "The Outlaw" is still making good at the Broadway, on an estimated $40,000 for the fifth week.

Columbia's "The Swordsman" will bow in at the Capitol tomorrow, following "Desire Me" which, with Gene Krupa's orchestra on stage, will wind up its third and final week tonight with a gross in the neighborhood of $52,000, which is not too strong. "I Know Where I'm Going" looks good for about $10,000 in an eighth week at the Sutton, marking a $500 improvement over the previous week.

"Desert Fury," with Desi Arnez' orchestra, proved lively enough in its third and final week at the Paramount, with business reaching about $70,000; it will be succeeded today by "Variety Girl." At the Little Carnegie, "Tawny Pipit" is standing up fairly well with $6,000 in view for a sixth week. "Adventure Island" will make its debut at the Gotham on Saturday, following the current reissue combination of "Each Dawn I Die" and "Badmen of Missouri," which should close a fourth and final week with an $8,700 gross, about fair. The Rialto's "Blonde Savage" proved a good investment, with about $7,600 seen for the second week.

Cinecolor Acquires 100% of FC Stock

Cinecolor Corp. has acquired 100 per cent of the stock of Film Classics and International Film Classics, it was disclosed here yesterday by A. Pam Blumenthal, chairman of the Cinecolor board, and Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics. Blumenthal said the deal was entirely a stock transaction, with an undisclosed amount of Cinecolor stock being exchanged for the Film Classics stock.

Bernhard becomes a director and a vice-president of Cinecolor and remains as president of Film Classics. Other officers of Film Classics are: Blumenthal, chairman of the board; Karl Herzog, vice-president and treasurer, and Eugene Arnstein, assistant treasurer. The board includes: Blumenthal, Bernhard, Herzog; Kenneth Baxter of Philadelphia, Joseph Rathert of St. Louis, and Sinclair Hatch.

Executives of Film Classics retain their same status: Samuel N. Wheeler, sales manager; Jules K. Chapman, assistant sales manager; A. Zimbalist, national advertising-publicity director; Arnstein, executive assistant treasurer, and Joseph Ende, comptroller.

Film Classics will be an international distributing outlet for independent producers having either Cinecolor or black and white commitments, but a majority of the new product will be in Cinecolor. Film Classics, now distributing its first new film, "Spirit of West Point," will continue to also release reissues. At present, there are four black-and-white and Cinecolor pictures in production for Film Classics release.

Cinecolor officials said that the acquisition of Film Classics in no way places it in competition with other Cinecolor users. Cinecolor expansion plans include the newly formed Cinecolor Finance Corp. to provide for the financing of laboratory charges and release prints.

Say UK Navy Owes US Films 'Gratitude'

London, Oct. 14.—The Royal Navy owes the American film industry a "deep debt of gratitude" by virtue of the support given the Royal Naval Film Corp. by Sam Eckman, British managing director for Loew's-M-G-M, who has been made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his services. So reads the CBE citation given Eckman.

"Without Eckman's aid the corporation could not have established itself on its present basis. The Royal Navy in all parts of the world owes Samuel Eckman and through him the American film industry a deep debt of gratitude," the citation said.

Carolinas to Meet On TOA Meeting

Charlotte, Oct. 14. — Members of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina have been called to meet here at the Hotel Charlotte on Oct. 20 to consider affiliation with the Theatre Owners of America.

So important is the matter considered by the directors of the Carolina organization that they advised the meeting be called soon and not wait until the annual meeting in February to decide about joining. Notice of the meeting was signed by Ben. L. Strozier, president, and Mrs. Walter Griffith, secretary.

Para. Stock Buying Is Down; WB Deals Halt

Paramount sharply reduced the tempo of its stock purchasing program last month when the company acquired the smallest number of shares, 5,400, of its common securities in any 30-day period since the buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban last November. As of Sept. 30, company holdings totaled 478,400 shares.

Meanwhile, Warners, which launched a similar stock buying program recently, made no purchases of its stock whatever last month. In August, the company bought 1,800 shares on the open market (the same method of buying pursued by Paramount), to bring its total to 107,180.

Paramount's previous monthly purchases were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January, 38,408; February, 23,792; March, 72,500; April, 72,300; May, 70,300; June 44,300; July, 67,500, and August, 25,900.

Rule Oct. 20 on 'U' Stock Suit Motion

A three-point motion filed by Universal and its directors in New York Supreme Court yesterday for dismissal of suits brought by minority stockholders Bertha T. Aine and Stephen Truncale, will be ruled on by the court on Oct. 20. The stockholders charge improper stock option deals.

Defendants' motion holds that the plaintiffs were not stockholders at the time the alleged deals were entered into; that the suit is barred by a three-year statute of limitations under New York civil law, and that it is barred also by the statute of limitations under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

Para. Suit Denial

Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibel yesterday denied the motion of Paramount stockholders Viola Frankenstein and H. M. Lewin to intervene in the suit brought against the company and directors by stockholder Hyman Horwitz who has alleged that Barney Balaban, president, was allowed by the directors to purchase promissory notes amounting to $2,000,000 on terms approved by the board.

Goldwyn Upheld by Court in Tax Case

Washington, Oct. 14.—The U. S. Tax Court has upheld Samuel Goldwyn in a dispute with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue over his 1943 income tax.

The dispute arose over a dividend declared in 1930 by the old U[illegible]d Artists Studio Corp. On Sept. 11[illegible]30 the corporation declared a dividend payable Dec. 15, 1930, which was charged to surplus and credited to a dividends payable account, in which appeared the amount due each shareholder.

There was no crediting to the shareholders' individual accounts until 1933, when on their instructions most of the dividend was applied to their debts to the corporation.

In the fiscal year ended June 30, 1931, the corporation had accumulated earnings and profits sufficient to pay the dividend; in 1933 it did not. In 1942 it finally made a distribution in redemption of shares, and computed earnings to reflect a reduction of surplus in 1931 by the amount of the dividend.

In his income tax return for 1942, Goldwyn reported the dividend of $800,000 paid to him as a return of capital. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue determined that $239,059 constituted taxable income. The parties then stipulated that such amount was a distribution of accumulated earnings and profits if the corporation's surplus had been reduced by the dividend in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1933, but that only $104,610.56 of the $800,000 dividend was a distribution if the reduction took place in 1931.

A divided court held with Goldwyn that the corporation's surplus had been reduced in the fiscal year 1931 by virtue of the declaration of the dividend, and that only $104,610 of the 1942 dividend constituted a distribution of earnings and profits.

Treasury Admits Max Factor U. S. Tax Over-Assessment

Washington, Oct. 14.—Max Factor & Co. of Hollywood today benefited by $156,000 in a Treasury Department determination of overassessments of excess profits taxes for 1941 and 1942. The Treasury found the company was overassessed $59,470 on its 1941 return and $96,719 in 1942. It stated that the overassessments will be offset in part by increases in income tax liability.

The amount of $143,167 of the overassessment was caused by a redetermination of the excess-profits tax liability under Section No. 722 of the Internal Revenue Code.

New Warner Product Talent Unit Formed

Hollywood, Oct. 14.—A new "proving ground" production project, designed to develop players, writers and directors, has been set up at Warners' studios by Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer. The number of productions to be made each year by this new group is at present undetermined.

"Our basic pattern," Warner stated, "is not unlike the 'farm systems' in baseball or the Little Theatre movement, both of which have proven valuable in training performers." Saul Elkins will produce the first picture and head the unit.

The brilliant arc between two "National" High Intensity projector carbons is brighter — per unit of area — than the heart of a V-2 rocket blast.

This powerful man-made sunlight is harnessed in your projection booth. It is snow white, perfect for bringing out detail and full rich color on your screen. And yet, compared to other operating costs, the expense of "National" projector carbons is negligible.

When "National" projector carbons are used as the light source, you give your patrons the kind of vivid, easy-to-see pictures they really enjoy. You'll find that "National" projector carbons have a definite effect upon your box office.

For Perfection in Photography and Projection, Use the Carbon Arc

The term "National" is a registered trade-mark of

NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation

UCC

30 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Division Sales Offices: ATLANTA • CHICAGO • DALLAS • KANSAS CITY • NEW YORK • PITTSBURGH • SAN FRANCISCO

U. A. Has 20

(*Continued from page* 1)

meeting, which ran on into the evening, that the deal had been consummated a few days ago, on the Coast, with N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, but now requires formalization by the RKO directorate.

Approved for acquisition from RKO by UA are: "Out of the Past," starring Robert Mitchum and Jane Greer; "Indian Summer," with Ann Sothern and Alexander Knox; "Stations West," with Dick Powell, and "Return of the Badmen" starring Randolph Scott. The latter two are now being edited.

The UA board approval on other distribution matters included an arrangement by which the company will participate in the financing release of "Mayerling," to be made in color by Robert Hakim, with production to begin on Dec. 15. Joan Fontaine will star in the film, a budget of $2,500,000 has been set, and either Henry Koster, William Dieterle or John Cromwell will direct.

Also approved was distribution of three from producer Jack Goldberg. These are "Melody Man," "I Live on Gallows Hill" and one untitled film. Production on the first will start in April.

UA also has forthcoming, with the board's approval, James Nasser's production of "My Dear Secretary," to star William Powell, and which Nasser intends to start on Feb. 1, at General Service Studios in Hollywood.

Sears repeated at the directors' meeting that banks are continuing to show willingness to finance independent production, citing the fact that financial institutions provided 65 per cent of the monies which went into the making of product on UA's current roster.

MPA, SIMPP Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent of SIMPP Donald M. Nelson and MPA president Eric Johnston.

Today's discussions covered the foreign field generally and the British situation in particular, but apparently still failed to produce any final solution. It was announced that Nelson, who is scheduled to leave tomorrow morning for New York for conferences with Eastern representatives of the independents, will return here "in a few days" for another meeting with Johnston.

Any trip by Nelson and Johnston to London must wait on the plan finally adopted by the industry, MPA said.

One stumbling block still confronting the two film leaders, it was understood, is the feeling among the independents that the industry will be better off if the government handles the negotiations over current import restrictions and film taxes. The SIMPP officials believe that the British, Danish, Australian and other actions are just the beginning.

Schulman to Realart As Advertising Chief

William B. Schulman has joined Realart Pictures as advertising-publicity director, it was announced by Joseph Harris, chairman of the board and treasurer of the company.

Schulman was previously with Universal in the home office and then as head of advertising-publicity in New England.

Film Sales off

(*Continued from page* 1)

umbia: 1947, second quarter, $9,080,000; first quarter, $10,044,000, (second quarter, 1946, $9,428,000). Loew's, Inc.: 1947, second quarter, $43,371,000; first quarter, $56,655,000, (second quarter, 1946, $45,754,000). First quarter of Loew's report embraced 16-week period).

Monogram: 1947, second quarter, $2,241,000; first quarter, $1,917,000, (second quarter, 1946: $2,000,000). RKO: second quarter, 1947, $31,254,000; first quarter, $31,632,000. (second quarter 1946: $29,002,000). Republic: second quarter, 1947, $7,569,000; first quarter, $7,116,000, (second quarter, 1946: $6,671,000). 20th-Fox: second quarter, 1947, $46,587,000; first quarter, $52,208,000, (second quarter, 1946, $46,921,000). Universal: second quarter, 1947, $16,608,000; first quarter, $13,805,000, (second quarter, 1946, $14,521,000). Warner Brothers, second quarter, 1947, $41,974,000; first quarter, $44,173,000, (second quarter, 1946, $41,408,000).

Columbia Pictures' foreign subsidiaries reported $3,956,000 for quarter ended March 29, 1947, compared with the previous three months' total of $4,591,000. Sales for the first quarter of 1946 totaled $3,956,000. RKO reported earnings of subsidiaries not consolidated operating in foreign countries as $4,098,000 in the second quarter of 1947, and $4,908,000 in the first quarter. Second quarter 1946 was reported at $4,128,000.

Theatre chains reported: Consolidated Amusement Co., Ltd.: second quarter, 1947, $1,194,000; first quarter, $1,226,000, (second quarter, 1946, $1,306,000). Loew's Boston Theatres: second quarter, 1947, $527,000; 1st quarter, $677,000, (second quarter, 1946, $521,000).

Minor Increase Reported In Retail Canada Sales

TORONTO, Oct. 14.—Indicating the general business trend in Canada in the face of inflated prices, the Canadian government's Bureau of Statistics reports that retail sales in August showed the smallest increase for any month of 1947 over the corresponding month of last year. Volume was only four per cent above the August, 1946 level, while the general index for the first eight months of this year was nine per cent higher than for the same period in 1946.

Theatremen say that people have money and employment continues high but spending, including entertainment spending, is down.

RCA To Stage Video Show at SMPE Meet

RCA, currently conducting theatre television tests in association with Warner Brothers, will stage a demonstration of large-screen television at the Oct. 23 theatre engineering session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' convention at the Hotel Pennsylvania here, according to Donald E. Hyndman, in charge of television for the convention.

The demonstration, revealing the latest developments of RCA engineers in the field of large-screen television, will be preceded by two papers delivered by RCA engineers. In addition, there will be a television session on the evening of Oct. 21.

Solon Finds Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

to prevent the export of films that put America in a bad light—films that "show us as warmongers and confirmed alcoholics and gangsters."

(Ed. Note: The industry established supervision over export films last year.)

2—Produce a few pictures that "subtly" stress the values of the American way of life, the benefits of freedom of movement, trial by jury, and similar guarantees.

"We don't want open propaganda," Mundt declared, "but Hollywood could make films portraying democracy just as seductively as the Communist line was followed in 'Mission to Moscow.' We need films that will make the European audience feel it must be great to be an American."

Mundt's group visited 24 countries during its month in Europe, going as far East as Turkey. It will start meeting in November to draw up a report to Congress on the State Department's overseas information activities. Mundt is author of a bill to establish the program permanently. The bill passed the House last session but did not come up for vote in the Senate.

Mundt said that in about two-thirds of the countries visited, the people consulted by the committee thought American movies were a great help in implementing the U. S. foreign program. In the other third, he declared, there was great criticism of the U. S. film industry for exporting films that portrayed the seamier side of American life.

If the industry does not help in the directions he outlined, Mundt stated, the Government's documentary film activity will have to be stepped up. "This is a second choice," he emphasized. "Private industry action is much to be preferred, for Government films don't reach as large an audience as Hollywood exports."

Albany House Is Hit For "Carmen" Ads

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 14. — *The Evangelist*, Albany Catholic Weekly, in an editorial severely criticizing mailed advertising on "Carmen" by the new management of the Colonial, here, suggested that "residents of this section might well form an organization to preserve themselves and their children from a contamination of morals by neighborhood theatres".

The article, captioned "Pack Peddlers of Filth", did not specify the Colonial by name but called it "Albany's newest motion picture theatre". The editorial charged that an invitation sent through the mail for "Carmen" is a conglomeration of exaggeration, innuendo, lasciviousness and cheap smut and is geared to attract sex morons.

This is the second week for the Colonial under a foreign picture policy instituted by Freedman and Orson, Yonkers exhibitors.

SPG to Demonstrate

A demonstration in protest against the home office discharge of five members of Paramount will be held at noon today in front of the Paramount Building here by the Screen Publicists Guild. An SPG spokesman said that the demonstration will be followed by newspaper advertisements and other steps to seek the reinstatement of discharged publicists.

SOPEG Raps Brandt For 'Birth' Revival

Sharp criticism of Harry Brandt, president of Brandt Theatres, for reviving "The Birth of a Nation" at Brandt's Republic Theatre here, was expressed yesterday by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, which condemned the picture as "an historically inaccurate, viciously anti-Negro, pro-Ku Klux Klan production" and as "an insult to the [illegible]gro people and every American."

SOPEG, in a letter to Brandt, signed by Sidney Young, SOPEG president, protesting the exhibition of the picture, urged the immediate cancellation of its engagement.

Rule Against IA

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing defeat in an attempt to "pressure" the executive council into ordering the "IA" to comply with the December clarification order under penalty of suspension from the AFL.

The "IA", confident of victory on the convention floor, claims that the clarification order resulted from pressure applied by Hutcheson. The Alliance also made it plain that it resents Hutcheson, a party to the Hollywood dispute, being permitted to sit with the council during the so-called clarification proceedings.

If it is unsuccessful on the convention floor, the "IA" will continue its fight against what it terms an "unjust verdict."

Union parties to the dispute and producers' representatives are scheduled to hold another settlement meeting in Hollywood next Monday.

'IA' Signs Under Taft-Hartley Law

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—IATSE and the Actors and Artistes of America are among 63 international labor unions whose officers have disavowed Communist ties in order to take cases to the National Labor Relations Board, the NLRB disclosed here today. The AFL carpenters and painters unions have also filed with the board, it was revealed.

Presumably these unions have also filed detailed financial reports with the Secretary of Labor, the second step required under the Taft-Hartley law for unions desiring to appear before the NLRB. Secretary Schwellenbach has set Oct. 30 as the day he will disclose the names of unions filing financial statements with him.

Brewster, U-I Official, On Leave of Absence

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14. — Harold Brewster, studio comptroller at Universal-International, has left the studio for a leave of absence.

He will be away until the end of the year for a physical check-up and an extended vacation. During his absence, Ivan Betts, his assistant, will act as studio comptroller.

O'Keefe Reception

Dennis O'Keefe, star of Eagle Lion's "T-Men," was honor guest last night at a reception held by the company at the Sherry Netherland Hotel here. Among those present were E-L president Arthur Krim; Max Youngstein, advertising-publicity director; Jerry Pickman, Leo Brady, Patrece Snyder and Jack Alicoate.

Print Shortage An Aggravation: ATOI

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 14.—The current print shortage is "one of the most irritating and needless aggravations," the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana charges in a bulletin. "There is no longer the war-time restrictions that once made it necessary, and the [illegible] statements of all the companies [illegible] that they are certainly well able to afford a quota of prints to satisfactorily liquidate their contracts."

Replying to a statement by W. F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager, that "we are not supplying adequate prints to the territory covered by our Indianapolis office," ATOI contends that M-G-M now uses fewer prints than it once considered adequate to serve a lesser number of accounts.

"Metro uses a booking arrangement that is known as 'week of release' system, and assuming that all prints are being employed to near maximum efficiency, each account is assigned a week of release in which a print should become available for their use," it declares. "A few years ago the smallest accounts served were set up to play in approximately the 20th week of release. Today the same size situations are set up to play 30 and more weeks after release. Playdate reports, taken regularly, show this condition."

If present print quotas were cut in half a contract on a picture still might be liquidated in a year and half or more, ATOI speculates, "but we suppose that as long as the picture can ultimately be played off Metro considers the print quota 'adequate,' no matter how long that playoff may require."

U. S. Refuses

(*Continued from page* 1)

against Ascap it stipulated, specifically for the protection of exhibitors, that Ascap could be paid by licensees on a per piece rather than a blanket license basis.

It now holds that exhibitors have not made use of the per piece method and, until this "easy alternative" has been tried and found unsatisfactory, the Department feels there is no point in instituting new legal action against Ascap.

The Ascap consent decree of 1941 was the culmination of a Government anti-trust suit against the Society inspired by radio broadcasters who were in a rate war with Ascap at the time. Despite the Department's assertion now that the per piece licensing basis was included in the decree specifically for the protection of exhibitors, there is no record in the trade which has ever been made public of the Department ever having consulted with exhibitors or their representatives on that or any other phase of the broadcasters' decree of 1941.

Since the decree was entered, exhibitors have regarded it as completely meaningless to exhibition and have held that licensing on the per piece basis not only is impracticable for the vast majority of exhibitors but also entails greater time and cost than licensing under the pre-decree method which has continued in effect.

The new increased Ascap rates are scheduled to become effective next Feb. 1.

Form Utah-S. Idaho PCCITO Group

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 14.—A Utah-Southern Idaho unit of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners was formally created today at a meeting a the Hotel Utah here. Harold Chesler of Bingham, Roy Firmage of Milford and Ralph Trathen of Salt Lake City were named as Utah trustees, while Hugo Jorgenson of Rigby and Max Lloyd were selected for Idaho members. Jay C. Christensen of this city was chosen temporary secretary.

On the agenda of today's session were plans for aiding independents and the reading of a letter from Ascap acknowledging receipt of a letter of protest on Ascap's rate increase from Utah theatremen. The letter also invited the Utah group to send representatives to Ascap's meeting with theatre representatives in the East this fall.

Tri-States

(*Continued from page* 1)

industry to enlist in the fight for peace.

"The motion picture screen can do more than any single medium" in averting new warfare and preserving the peace," he declared.

"The screen cannot do it alone but without the screen the job cannot be done," he said. "It is our responsibility to see that the screens are available and used, and used well. I feel we must accept our responsibility to influence policy as well as to execute decisions. This is no different from the relationship to government assumed by other communication media."

The TOA president said that exhibitors "must move for relief from unfair and discriminatory taxation" before their investments are swept away.

"We must obtain at least a 50 per cent reduction of Federal admission taxes and this within a matter of months," he said.

Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the Memphis board of censors, was also present at the convention and, although scheduled to speak, left before his turn came. Binford, who is involved in a suit by Hal Roach over the banning of "Curley" from Memphis screens, left early because of another engagement, it was explained, but a newspaper reporter who was given the text of Binford's intended remarks said the Memphis censor promulgated suggestions that Hollywood do a "better job of cleaning up pictures."

In addition to an address of welcome by Marvin Pope, assistant to the Mayor, the convention heard talks by Sam Shain, exhibitor relations director for 20th Century-Fox; Mack Jackson, president of Southeast Theatre Owners Association; M. A. Connett, Mississippi Theatre Association head; C. C. Mundo, president, Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas, and Rudy Berger of M-G-M.

Bailey Gets 3 More Astor Franchises

DENVER, Oct. 14.—Tom Bailey, recent purchaser of the Denver and Salt Lake City Astor Pictures franchises, has completed arrangements to take over the Astor franchises for Kansas City, Omaha and Des Moines, and will set up exchanges in those cities.

TOA Board Agenda

(*Continued from page* 1)

Fay has been chosen to serve as Rhode Island MPTO representative on the TOA board.

Coyne also disclosed yesterday that he will appear as TOA's representative and guest speaker at a meeting of the Alabama Theatre Owners Association on Oct. 21 at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel in Birmingham.

Branch Raps

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the things that happen to him is the lack of organization and the giving of too little time and money to accomplish necessary objectives. He coupled his warning of the need for organizational activity with the prospect of impending tax measures, the Ascap situation, preferred playing time and roadshow prices which beset the independent operator.

He further stressed the need for informing local, state and national legislative representatives of the theatremen's positions on these problems.

Assails Advanced Price Scales

Advance admission prices were strongly assailed by Branch who pointed out that these prices aided local government in creating additional theatre taxes by definitely putting pictures in the luxury class. Claiming that there were not 10 to 12 films a year worth $1.25 for admission, he disclosed that a drive to enlist the nation's screens was under contemplation to request patrons to boycott theatres playing upped-price films.

Branch also criticized the major companies for their policy of not screening films until the first run openings and pointed out that the small operator would suffer if the National Legion of Decency subsequently condemned these films. He specifically cited 20th Century-Fox for "Forever Amber." He added that discussion of this problem with the Legion was being considered with a view to having the Legion advise the public not to see any picture until it has had an opportunity to pass opinion.

Leaving for the National Allied board meeting, which is also in session here, Branch turned the meeting over to vice-president C. E. Beecher. Jack Stewart, general manager, in his address also called attention to the small attendance and criticized the state membership of 248 theatres as being slightly more than half of what it should be, and called upon every member to campaign for additional membership.

Denounces 'Ads' in Films

In hitting the abuses experienced by operators, Stewart accentuated what he termed "deliberate, planned and paid for advertising" by the producers, and accused them of appropriating money due the exhibitors by using their screens for advertising purposes. The too-frequent appearance of soft drink and cigarette visual and spoken commercials, he said, could not possibly be accidental.

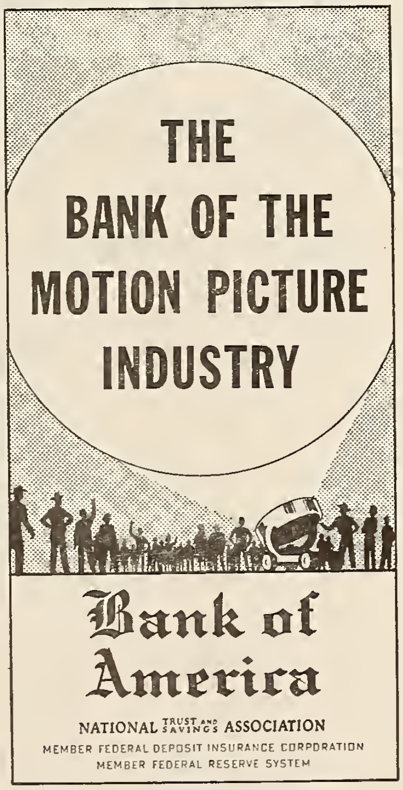
Reporting on the Ascap situation, Joseph Uvick said he believed both law suits and legislation would be necessary before the matter could be cleared. In view of his, he continued, greater unity and sharing of expenses were imperative, and added that while action should have been taken years ago, theatre men were "unconcerned and lazy" about the matter since the public footed the bill.

Not how much Ascap should be paid, but how much Ascap should pay the exhibitor, he asserted, should be the point at issue, inasmuch as a song is valueless on the film but becomes valuable only after getting on the screen. Ascap, he added, paid heavy money to plug tunes and get them before audiences, but now that they are getting the plugs for nothing they want to get paid.

He also hit film companies with directors who have criticized music publishing firms and have members on the Ascap board. Claiming that it looked "crooked," Stewart said this situation should be able to be proved as a conspiracy in restraint of trade and investigated by the Department of Justice. He added that this phase hasn't been looked into heretofore and that it should be.

The convention also heard brief messages from Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion director; Paul Mooney of National Screen Service; Dave Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association, and Morris Wolf of M-G-M.

Sessions will be resumed tomorrow afternoon following the election of five directors for a three-year term in the morning.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Assistant for Film Buyer and Booker familiar with Circuit Operation and capable of taking dictation. BOX 394

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Large building with MOVIE THEATRE and stores in well established prosperous resort town. BOX 395.

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The PRIZE Surprise Picture of the Year!

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"★ ★ ★ ½ ★ The Picture Is INSPIRATIONAL--- HIGHLY ENTERTAINING---" *Says KATE CAMERON, N. Y. Daily News*

* * *

"THRILLS PACK 'SPIRIT of WEST POINT' WITH ACTION AND WONDERFULLY COLORFUL SCENES"

Says LEE MORTIMER, N. Y. Daily Mirror

* * *

FILM DAILY says: "SOCK STUFF! ALERT SHOWMEN Will Cash In With It"

* * *

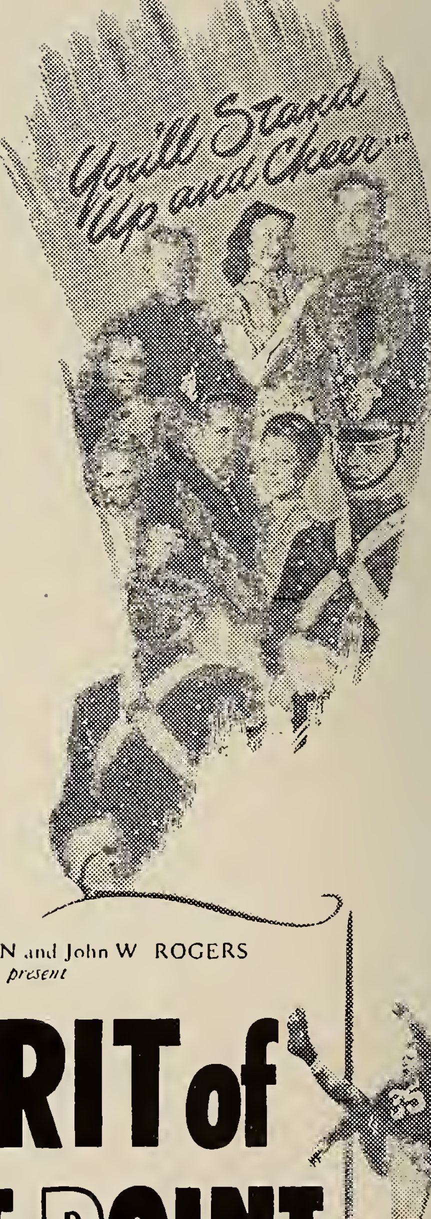
VARIETY (DAILY) Says: "Film is not only a natural for football season release, but packs enough general human interest go give the femmes a thrill. Picture has strong-exploit possibilities and should be good for any man's box office!"

* * *

SPORT MAGAZINE says: "PICTURE OF THE MONTH"

* * *

SCREEN ROMANCES says: "PRIZE PICTURE OF THE YEAR"


You'll Stand Up and Cheer...

Harry Joe BROWN and John W. ROGERS
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SPIRIT of WEST POINT

FELIX 'DOC' BLANCHARD
GLENN DAVIS

Robert Shayne • Anne Nagel
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PLUS! America's Greatest Sportcasters . . .
BILL STERN • HARRY WISMER

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62. NO. 75 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

Allied to Put Upped Scale Before Public

Michigan Allied Backs NA's Ascap Stand Also

By DIRK COURTENAY

DETROIT, Oct. 15.—Adopting a resolution which was drafted by the national board of Allied States in session here and which will be the pattern for other affiliated Allied units throughout the country, Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan at its closing convention session here today went on record as being opposed to being forced to play advanced admission pictures and, when doing so, to inform the public of reasons why the increased scales are beyond the exhibitor's control.

Michigan Allied also approved the national organization's policy with respect to increased theatre music licensing fees proposed by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, which is to oppose

(*Continued on page 7*)

Await Washington Decision on Ascap

OLYMPIA, Wash., Oct. 15.—Appeal arguments having been heard here yesterday by the Washington State Supreme Court, decision is now awaited on the question of legality of the refusal by some exhibitors of this state to pay fees for music performing rights to the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, a situation prevailing here for the past 10 years.

The case dates back to the promulgation of a state statute in 1937 which

(*Continued on page 7*)

5 More Exchanges For Film Classics

Film Classics yesterday moved closer to establishing a national exchange system by acquiring exchanges and franchises in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Charlotte and Minneapolis. The deals give the company an ownership in excess of 95 per cent of FC exchanges in the country.

The exchanges and franchises in

(*Continued on page 7*)

Collins Is Elected Head of Tri-States

MEMPHIS, Oct. 15.—Orris Collins, owner of the Capitol and Majestic theatres at Paragould, Ark., today was unanimously elected president of Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners at the closing session of a two-day convention here. Collins succeeds R. X. Williams, Jr., of the Lyric Theatre, Oxford, Miss., retiring president.

Other new officers elected include: Miss Louise Mask of Bolivar, vice-president for Tennessee; Arthur Rush, Houston, Miss., vice-president for Mississippi; W. E. (Bill) Malin, Augusta, Ark., vice-president for Arkansas, and W. F. Ruffin, Jr., Covington, Tenn., secretary.

The theatre owners, who yesterday affiliated themselves and their organizations with the Theatre Owners of America, today elected three representatives—one from each state—to the TOA board as follows: Max A. Con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Amend Complaints Filed in Manos Suits

CLEVELAND, Oct. 15.—All but one of the distributor plaintiffs in the percentage suits against George A. Manos, Manos Amusement, Inc., and Roxy Amusement Co., of Toronto, O., have filed the bills of particulars, or amended complaints ordered in July by Federal Judge Mel Underwood.

Each distributor listed all of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Map Sharp Rise in Film Duty in Eire

Dublin, Oct. 15. — Customs duties on film imports would be sharply increased under proposals advanced by Premier De Valera tonight to meet the grave economic and labor crisis confronting the Eire government. The proposals, made before the Dail Eireann, were coupled with measures aimed at controlling prices and wage levels, and would set higher income taxes and import duties to raise an estimated 4,000,000 pounds necessary for additional food subsidies.

MonogramDirectors Up for Re-election

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Election of a board of 10 directors is item No. 1 on the agenda for the annual meeting of Monogram stockholders, which will be held here on Nov. 12.

Management has nominated the 10 present directors for reelection. Present directors are: W. Ray Johnston, board chairman; Steve Broidy, company president; George D. Burrows, executive vice-president and treasurer; Edward Morey, vice-president; Herman Rifkin, president of Liberty Theatres; Howard Stubbins, partner of Monogram of California; Charles Trampe, owner of Monogram Midwest; William Hurlbut, president of Monogram of Detroit; Arthur C.

(*Continued on page 4*)

"Green Dolphin Street"

[*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*] — One of the Big Ones

Hollywood, Oct. 15

THIS is one of the really big ones, big enough to be exploited and sold on size alone, although this is not necessary with names like Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Frank Morgan, Edmund Gwenn, Donna Reed, Gladys Cooper, Reginald Owen, Dame May Whitty and Richard Hart present for marquee use. It is also, in some of its parts, one of the fine ones, and in nearly all of them one of the impressive ones. It cost a fortune to produce and looks every dollar of it. It contains within its unstinted length so much of so many different kinds of material that probably nobody will find it possible to vote the straight ticket for or against all that is presented. It ventures to make a case for the view that people who marry wisely rather than for love fare very well indeed. For any one or two or three of the several reasons present, it is hard to see how the picture can miss at the box-office.

Production, by Carey Wilson, is on a scale seldom undertaken, and quite likely not to be undertaken often hereafter unless and until the foreign market is regained. An earthquake in New Zealand, quite the most realistic and frightening sequence depicting an act of nature ever

(*Continued on page 4*)

Says Theatres Are Affected By U. K. Tax

Concerns Them as Much As Companies: Montague

Exhibitors should realize that the present British *ad valorem* tax and other phases of the world situation concern them as much as producers and distributors, A. Montague, general sales manager of Columbia, declared here yesterday at the Hotel Warwick, where Columbia is holding the first of a series of three sales meetings.

At the same time, Montague disclosed that Columbia has $20,000,000 worth of pictures, produced but not yet released. He added that Columbia does not plan to sell pictures at advanced admission prices.

Montague said that the world situation had been stressed at the sales meeting, and that Joseph A. McConville, head of Columbia International, had explained in great detail to the sales force "just what is happening in each country," and how it affects the domestic scene.

Montague asserted that "exhibitors

(*Continued on page 4*)

RKO Board Ready To Close UA Deal

Finalization of the United Artists purchase of four features from RKO Radio amounts to a mere formality in the form of ratification by the next RKO board meeting, as yet unscheduled, an RKO official said here yesterday. All directors of the company already have informally approved the deal, he explained. They have been informed of all details.

A few RKO principals, including Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-presi-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Cripps 'Fears' US Pictures: Selznick

CORONADO, Cal., Oct. 15.—David O. Selznick charged last night that Britain's economic planning director Sir Stafford Cripps is not anxious that American pictures be shown in Britain because when the English public sees the American way of life in films it becomes greatly dissatisfied

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

ARTHUR SACHSON, Samuel Goldwyn Prod. general sales manager, will leave New York Sunday for Indianapolis.

•

MRS. DAVID COPLAN, wife of the managing director of United Artists in the United Kingdom, and GOOGIE WITHERS, British film actress, are among passengers due here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

HERMAN GOLDBERG, supervisor of maintenance and purchasing agent for Warner exchanges, left here yesterday for Chicago, Omaha and Minneapolis.

•

KENNETH MACKENNA of M-G-M's studio story department will head back to the Coast tomorrow from New York.

•

MAURICE CHEVALIER will arrive in town today from France on the *SS De Grasse.*

•

ROBERT LYNCH, M-G-M district manager in Philadelphia, has returned to that city from New York.

•

ALVIN ASHER of M-G-M's studio legal department will leave here Saturday for the Coast.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, is en route to the Coast from New York.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, U-I Southern and Canadian sales manager, left here yesterday for Nashville.

•

RAY BROWN, Warner Southern Ohio district manager with headquarters in Springfield, has influenza.

Appoint Geo. Douglas U-I Studio Treasurer

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—George Douglas has been appointed to the recently-created post of studio treasurer at Universal-International, it was announced here today by Edward Muhl, general studio manager. Douglas will assume his new duties immediately.

A member of the studio's executive staff for two years, Douglas is a writer and speaker on economic problems and was formerly in U-I's New York office. He was brought to the studio for statistical research in conjunction with film production. Prior to his joining the company he held posts with Cities Service Oil Co. and Lord and Thomas Advertising Agency.

Reception for Hendrix

Wanda Hendrix, Universal-International player, will leave New York today for Jacksonville, Fla. Miss Hendrix, a native of Jacksonville, will be given a reception by city officials and leading citizens on the occasion of the opening of the St. John Theatre next week.

FCC Ready to Hear Para. Video Case

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—The Federal Communications Commission today designated for hearing the applications of subsidiaries of Paramount Pictures for five new television stations.

Although no specific date has been set for the hearing, FCC officials indicated that it would take place soon because "they wanted to clear things up."

Today's announcement came at the close of a second extension granted to Paramount by the commission, during which time the company was to comply with the commission's rule that no one company may control more than five video stations. Paramount already has stations in Chicago and Los Angeles, and, through its interest in Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, has permits for stations in Washington, New York and Pittsburgh.

The commission ordered Paramount either to withdraw its current applications for five stations, in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dallas, Boston and Detroit, or divest itself of holdings in the subsidiary companies.

Two weeks ago Paramount asked the commission to reconsider its decision and stated that it did not control DuMont. Presumably the hearing was called to discuss Paramount's request.

Vote $100,000 for New Cinecolor Plant

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Cinecolor's board of directors has approved construction of a $100,000 initial plant in the company's current expansion program. The new building will be adjacent to the present Cinecolor plant in Burbank, president W. T. Crispinel reported here today.

Meanwhile, the company's present plant is being equipped with additional camera departments, vaults and machine shops.

Savini on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Robert M. Savini, Astor Pictures president, is conferring with Yucca Production executives on the Sunset Carson series of Westerns which Astor is distributing. Savini, who has been sitting in on the production of the second Sunset Carson film, "Fighting Mustang," will remain here until the print and negative of the first feature, "Sunset Carson Rides Again," is ready to take back to New York.

Testimonial for Disney

A testimonial luncheon to Walt Disney will be given by The Banshees at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, on Oct. 23, in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Disney's creation of his "Mickey Mouse."

Johnston to Pioneers

Eric Johnston has notified Jack Cohn, head of the Picture Pioneers, that he will attend the annual Thanksgiving dinner of that organization at the Hotel Plaza, on Wednesday evening, Nov. 19.

353 Houses, 185,696 Seats in Seattle

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Some 353 theatres are now operating in the Seattle exchange territory, and nine others are closed, the Motion Picture Association's fifth report on its survey of the industry in the field discloses. The 353 houses have a total capacity of 185,696 seats.

Of the total theatres in the area, both open and closed, 202 are non-circuit and 160 are operated by circuits of four or more units each. The 160 circuit houses have 108,552 seats, while the 202 non-circuit operations have only 80,940.

Clayton Quits Post; Handled Film Duties

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—William L. Clayton today resigned as Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, a post in which he has been involved in many of the film industry's foreign problems, including the British tax situation and the Geneva Trade Conference.

Clayton, who gave his wife's illness as the reason for his resignation, agreed to stand by as an unpaid adviser to Secretary Marshall.

Some Government officials believe that no one will be appointed to fill Clayton's post, which was created specifically by Congress only recently and expires next June 30. They think that Assistant Secretary of State Willard Thorpe, who has been working with Clayton, might take over all of Clayton's duties without assuming the title. Thorpe has a long record of awareness of film problems.

Special 'Last Nazi' Shows for Newsmen

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Newspaper correspondents who covered pre-war and wartime Europe will be guests of producer Carl Krueger and director Richard G. Hubler at pre-release showings of their "The Last Nazi" to be held in New York on Dec. 2 and in Washington on Dec. 3.

Now being filmed at Enterprise Studios, here, the picture stars Marta Mitrovich and includes footage from Leni von Reifenstahl's German production, "Triumph of the Will." Hubler was *Newsweek Magazine's* roving correspondent in Russia in 1937.

Lesser, Melford Form Windsor Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15. — Windsor Pictures Corp. has been formed here by Julian Lesser and Frank Melford. Acquiring four Jean Stratton Porter stories, they will produce two features annually. Distribution has not been set.

'Life of Riley' to U-I

Universal-International has purchased "Life of Riley," NBC air show, which Irving Brecher, its originator, will write and produce for the screen. It constitutes the first leading radio property to be acquired by Universal-International.

Frayne and Rose to Get SMPE Awards

Dr. John Frayne of Electrical Research Products, Los Angeles, has been elected to receive the 1947 "Progress Medal" of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and Dr. Albert Rose of the Laboratories, Princeton, will be presented with the year's "Journal Award," Loren Ryder, president of the Society, nounced here yesterday. Formal presentations will be made at the 62nd semi-annual SMPE banquet on Oct. 22 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here, where the Society will hold its fall convention from Monday through Friday of next week.

Dr. Frayne is being awarded the Progress Medal for "a number of outstanding improvements in the art of motion picture sound recording and reproduction." The award to Dr. Rose is for the best technical paper of the past year, "A Unified Approach to the Performance of Photographic Film."

Also to be awarded at the banquet will be the first presentation of the newly-created Sam Warner Memorial Medal, in memory of the late Warner Brothers official. Recipient of this award will be determined at the SMPE board of governors' meeting on Saturday.

In addition to these medals, there will be four honorable mention presentations in recognition of outstanding papers, to go to Dr. N. L. Simmons, Jr., of Eastman Kodak, Hollywood; A. C. Robertson of Eastman Kodak, Rochester; E. H. Bingham of Ansco, Binghamton; Fred Waller, Huntington, N. Y.

Thirteen Active Members of the Society will receive certificates elevating them to Fellow Membership. These are: Karl Brenkert, Sr., Cyrus C. Dash, Fordyce Tuttle, Fred E. Altman, Rudolph Kingslake, Robert G. Linderman, Malcolm G. Townsley, R. T. Van Niman, Robert J. Zavesky, Arthur J. Hatch, Jr., Ralph H. Talbot, Philip E. Brigandi and Arthur C. Blaney.

3 Ad Executives To Address AMPA Meet

Barney Finn of The Merchandising Group; Albert Seaman, copy supervisor of Compton Advertising Agency, and George Trimble, media director of Fuller, Smith and Ross, Inc., will be guest speakers at the Oct. 23 luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers. It will be held at the Town Hall Club, here. Phil Williams, AMPA vice-president, will preside at the meeting, the theme of which will be "Good Advertising Means Business."

B. & F. Managers Elect

TORONTO, Oct. 15.—The B. and F. Theatres Managers Association elected Ted Smith, manager of the York Theatre, Toronto, as president for the next 12 months at the annual meeting in the King Edward Hotel, here. Tom Waterfield, manager of the Scarboro, Toronto, is the secretary. B. and F. Theatres is operated by Sam Bloom and Sam Fine as a circuit affiliated with Famous Players Canadian Corp.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herhert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

THAT HAGEN GIRL

That Hagen Girl is going to make a big name for herself!

ONALD REAGAN
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in
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PENNY EDWARDS • HARRY DAVENPORT
Directed by Produced by
ETER GODFREY • ALEX GOTTLIEB
een Play by Charles Hoffman • From a Novel
/ Edith Roberts • Music by Franz Waxman

TRADE SHOW OCT. 21ST

She joins "LIFE WITH FATHER" (TECHNICOLOR)
"DARK PASSAGE" • "THE UNSUSPECTED"
"ESCAPE ME NEVER" • "MY WILD IRISH ROSE" (TECHNICOLOR)

ALL FROM **Warner Bros.**

WB

Manos Suits

(*Continued from page* 1)

percentage pictures served by it to the circuit during the six years prior to the filing of the suits, as the ones in which it claims discrepancies took place, and have also filed lists of flat rental pictures on which they claimed they had been damaged.

Judge Underwood's order of July 22 over-ruled the exhibitor's motion to dismuss the complaints, and also over-ruled another motion to strike five complete paragraphs from the complaint. The judge also over-ruled the exhibitor's motion for the production of certain documents.

Luther Day, Thomas M. Harman and John S. Pyke of the Cleveland law firm of Jones, Day, Cockley & Reavis, and Freedman T. Eagelson of the Columbus law firm of Eagelson and Laylin, are attorneys for the plaintiff distributors.

Kodak Moves Up Carver

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 15. — Dr. Emmett K. Carver has been appointed to the newly-created position of technical assistant to the general manager of the Kodak Park here. Dr. Charles R. Fordyce succeeds Carver as superintendent of the department of manufacturing experiments. Fordyce formerly was the department's assistant superintendent.

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1270 6th Ave. New York 20, N.Y.

"Green Dolphin Street"

(*Continued from page* 1)

filmed, is achieved in a fashion warranting release for its own sake. But it is merely an incident here. At the opposite extreme, a one-take deathbed scene enacted by Miss Cooper, Miss Reed and Mr. Gwenn may be the finest exhibition of its kind in screen history. Between these extremes ranges a vast variety of incidents, some striking and some strikingly routine, and there is a similar range in the quality of the dialogue, which is superb at its best and humdrum at its worst. The action roves the globe, by sailing-ship, from the Island of St. Pierre to China to New Zealand and back. It is intermittent but never commonplace. Victor Saville's direction, excellent in the quiet stretches and competent in the violent passages, is a work of distinction.

SAMSON Raphaelson's screenplay, from Elizabeth Goudge's novel of the same name, opens in St. Stephen on a light note, quickly establishing the Misses Turner and Reed as daughters of the local rich man (Gwenn) and precipitating both into love with Hart, the lax-mannered son of a doctor (Morgan) whom their mother loved in his youth but rejected in favor of Gwenn on advice of her parents. Miss Turner, the more artful of the girls, manages to get Hart sent to Naval school, so that he may become a gentleman and therefore eligible for marriage, but realizes he really is in love with her sister. He ships off to China, gets drunk, deserts the Navy, and winds up in New Zealand, where he joins up with Heflin, who has gone there because he had killed a man in St. Pierre (over Miss Turner, whom he has loved secretly for years), and they get along all right in the lumber business until Hart, drunk again, writes a letter of proposal to Miss Reed but mistakenly uses Miss Turner's name.

Not to pursue in synopsis the devious turnings of a long narrative, Hart marries Miss Turner, whom he does not love, rather than break her heart, and Heflin, who loves her, stands by, even to the extent of delivering her child during an earthquake. Back home, the girls' mother confesses to her husband on her deathbed that she was in love with the doctor (Hart's father) when she married him, but learned to love him as they went along, and he says he knew all about it all along. Then he dies, too, leaving Miss Reed, who thinks Hart turned away from her to her sister, alone and hopeless.

OFF in New Zealand Heflin finally tells Miss Turner, now Hart's wife, that he has loved her all this while, and she confesses that she loves both him and Hart, but belongs to Hart. Ultimately Miss Turner and her husband, Hart, arrive back in St. Pierre on the day before Miss Reed is to become a nun, and Miss Turner discovers a letter which reveals to her that Hart married her out of pity while loving her sister. She says she never wants to see him again. But next day they go separately to see Miss Reed, who says she has found real happiness, and the husband and wife go on together, agreeing, in language paralleling that in which her dying mother revealed to her father the lovelessness of their marriage in the beginning and the glory of it later on, that theirs is a greater happiness than what he calls "the love of youth."

The picture on the whole is, of course, a love story. It is a love story which appears to argue that it is better to marry a person whose influence will be constructive than to marry for love. Off hand, that looks like a pretty tough bill of goods to sell in these United States, but there it is.

Running time, 140 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Monogram Directors

(*Continued from page* 1)

Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern, and Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram-International.

Number of shares of the common stock ($1 par value) owned directly or beneficially by the aforementioned are as follows: Johnston, 16,611½ shares; Broidy, 14,093; Burrows, 7,633; Morey, 1,500; Rifkin, 16,585; Stubbins, 328; Trampe, 8,353; Hurlbut, 4,029; Bromberg, 1,086; Ritchey, 7,754. Additionally, Johnston holds options on 12,500 shares and Broidy holds options on 2,000. Common stock shares owned by corporations in which directors have majority beneficial interest or ownership are as follows: Broidy, 1,706; Rifkin, 11,825, and Bromberg, 16,672. No other officer holds any outstanding securities of the company, except Sam Wolf, secretary, who owns directly as well as beneficially, some 5,333 shares.

New Altec Branch

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 15.—Ben Schroeder has moved to Lexington to open an Altec branch office for the handling of service in Lexington and surrounding territory. Schroeder had been in Louisville for some time, and is making his permanent residence in Lexington.

RKO-UA Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent, privately discussed the sale to UA in a meeting here yesterday but no further action was taken.

Next RKO board meeting is not likely for several days since N. Peter Rathvon, president and board chairman, and Floyd Odlum, one of the principal directors, both are on the Coast and have not yet scheduled trips to New York.

The RKO spokesman said the company's huge inventory of product, which he estimated at $35,000,000, was unwarranted under present trade conditions, and this was the determining factor in closing with UA.

UA Still Considers British Production

Despite the increase in its product inventory through purchase of four films from RKO Radio, United Artists still has under active consideration the production of six pictures annually in England in association with a Dublin company.

A proposed arrangement for the joint production was presented to the UA board this week but two points were found objectionable and the matter is being re-negotiated.

Tax Affects Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

must be a definite part of the planning of the future of this industry," adding that Columbia salesmen would inform exhibitors that the U. S. is not isolated from the world situation.

"I am concerned at the attitude of some theatre owners who do not seem interested in the entire situation," Montague said. If the exhibitor understands the world situation, the Columbia executive continued, the [illegible]hibitor will hold a picture in a [illegible]tre "as long as it can stay."

In urging exhibitors to give more playing time, Montague emphasized that "we do not expect any exhibitors to lose their profits." He added that Columbia is "not going to lessen its manpower," and that "if it can aid exhibitors by increasing its manpower, it will look with some degree of favor on that particular policy."

Montague said the company intended to eliminate any unnecessary spending, but made it clear that he did not consider advertising to be in that category. He said: "We don't think it good policy for the exhibitor or for us to stop advertising. We don't believe it has been wasted."

He said that "we are concerned by the shortening of playing time," and that "business is not turning over as fast as it did two years ago. There seems to be the same number of people going to pictures, but not as often." As a possible contributing factor to the lessening of attendance, Montague said audience research tests had indicated that "a great deal of overtime money," formerly earned in war days, is no longer being paid.

The studios are "doing everything possible to make pictures in the quickest possible time, without lowering quality," Montague said. He again cited the obvious influence of reduced income from foreign markets on production, but added that "Columbia has not been affected as yet by the British tax."

Montague said that a new group of reissues is scheduled for this year, but did not name the pictures. Columbia is trying to reduce clearances wherever possible, he said.

Cripps 'Fears'

(*Continued from page* 1)

at its own socialistic type of government.

Speaking before 300 bankers from all over the U. S. who are holding a convention at the Hotel Del Coronado, Selznick built up to his attack on Cripps by pointing out that one of the first moves Stalin made upon assuming leadership in Russia was to prohibit the showing of all American films with the exception of such pictures as "Grapes of Wrath," which "show Americans in a bad light." Motion pictures made in the U. S., he said, is the greatest ideological weapon against Communism.

Selznick predicted that because of the film industry situation abroad fewer pictures will be made here because one-half of the foreign market is lost.

He said that one of his hopes is the creation of a Radio City type of community center for every town in the U. S. Bankers, Selznick added, could help on this project. He envisioned a center where every type of entertainment, including films, would be available, adding that it would be a great contribution to combat juvenile delinquency.

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ALAN CURTIS, ANN SAVAGE, EDWARD BRDPHY, RUSSELL WADE

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ODNALO WOOOS, GLORIA WARREN, ANTNDNY WAROE, SHIRLEY O'NARA

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 14			(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)			EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min. (Rev. 9/16/47)	(Block 1)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)		(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens C—68 min. (827)	RAILROADED John Ireland D—72 min. (710) (Rev. 10/8/47)	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)		WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)	DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min. (621)	SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)		
Sept. 28		GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)		ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)		THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min. (905)	LOVE FROM A STRANGER John Hodiak Sylvia Sydney D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)		HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751) (Rev. 10/7/47)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)		FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER O—55 min. (961) BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton C—69 min. (911)	RETURN OF THE LASH Al St. John O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)			RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev.10/20/41)			THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Oct. 19	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D—66 min. (Rev. 9/26/47) GUN LAW Al "Lash" La Rue O	SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O		ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648)	CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47).		
Oct. 26	DOWN TO EARTH (Color) Rita Hayworth Larry Parks D—101 min. (930) (Rev. 8/29/47)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O	(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39)	LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/28/47)			NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D—111 min. (Rev. 10/9/47)	MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)	(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (Rev. 9/10/47)	(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Nov. 2	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (981) (Rev. 10/7/47)	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47)	DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (Rev. 9/26/47)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D	FOREVER AMBER (Color) Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D—138 min. (733) (Rev. 10/9/47)		BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr David Farrar D—98 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	CHEYENNE TAKES OVER Al "Lash" La Rue O		JIGGS AND MAGGIE IN SOCIETY C			DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (Rev. 9/29/47)	THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min.		WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)		(Nov. Release) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47) BOWERY BUCKAROOS	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)		DESIGN FOR DEATH (Documentary)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)	(Nov. Release) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)		ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D			THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D				(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)			

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dra*
(M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

Allied to Explain

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ascap by litigation and legislation, if necessary, while working for the clearance of music performing rights through film producers, who would obtain them from Ascap at the same time recording rights are obtained.

Five new directors were elected at this morning's session: E. L. Jacobs, E[illegible]naba; Berney Kilbride, Detroit; [illegible]g Belinsky, Clawson; A. Krinkorian, Holly, and Herbert R. Fox, Mason. They succeed C. R. Beechler, Charlotte; E. E. Kirchner, Detroit; Thomas Ealand, Ferndale; Del Ritter, Detroit, and J. R. Denniston, Monroe.

Highlighting the session were addresses by Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, and Abram Myers, board chairman. Kirsch said that the exhibitor couldn't be blamed for advanced admissions when he is forced into playing the pictures although the public now held him responsible. He maintained a shortage of product to small houses was one of the principal reasons these pictures made the rounds.

Says Allied Is Not Destructive

In spite of accusations from many quarters about their stand on various matters, he said Allied was not a destructive organization but a constructive one. He maintained the small operators created the motion picture business and now were only trying to hold their own with the large circuits.

Myers highlighted the Ascap situation and made known that the national organization was advising theatres not to sign the new contracts until at least the expiration of the four-month extension period next Feb. 1 and, in no event, before the national board meeting in Milwaukee in December, at which time it is believed more information and knowledge of what might transpire will be available.

He claimed the only reason Ascap was now willing to negotiate was because it is under fire and if a lesser increase is accepted it would only be a matter of time until an additional one was asked.

Myers said an Ascap amendment to be presented to Congress provides that producers would be licensed for both recording and reproducing purposes and the burden of bargaining thus would be assigned to those in a better position to do it.

'Favorable Reaction' to Proposal

According to Myers leaders in Congress have been, or are going to be, contacted by persons in a position to do so and to date there is a favorable reaction to the proposed copyright amendment. He pledged Allied to continue this fight to the end.

A motion that the convention appoint a standing committee for the purpose of seeking necessary legislation to create competition between film carriers was adopted by Michigan Allied. As the law now exists, it was charged, no one, regardless of capital, can enter the business. It appears that each carrier now has specific routes.

In addition to praising the Warner short, "Power Behind the Nation," which was produced for the Motion Picture Association, and asking that credit for contributions to the Cancer Fund be given exhibitors, the board also decided to request the Internal Revenue Department to ascertain whether television shows in bars and restaurants are not subject to a 20 per cent entertainment tax.

Kentucky Showmen Set Meeting Agenda

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 15.—Among industry problems to be discussed at the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners Convention at the Seelbach Hotel here on Oct. 22-23 will be the Ascap situation, admission taxes, exhibitor and distributor relations, percentage pictures and censorship.

Principal speaker will be Ted Gamble, national president of the Theatre Owners of America. W. E. Carroll of Allied States will be another speaker. Present will be representatives from M-G-M, RKO Radio, National Screen Service, plus technical representatives, equipment representatives and the film press.

Registration will begin at nine A.M., Oct. 22, with a directors meeting and general business session in the afternoon, followed by a party. That evening Gamble will speak at a dinner. The next day will be followed by business sessions and a luncheon.

Montana Owners Set Nov. 5-6 Meeting

WOLF POINT, Mont., Oct. 15.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Montana will hold its annual fall convention in Billings on Nov. 5-6, at the Northern Hotel.

Representatives from the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will attend. Clarence J. Severson is president of the Montana group.

Tri-States

(*Continued from page* 1)

nett, Newton, from Mississippi; W. F. Ruffin, Sr., president of Ruffin Amusements, from Tennessee, and C. C. Mundo, Little Rock, from Arkansas.

W. F. Ruffin, Sr., Covington, was elected chairman of the Tri-States board of directors. Other directors elected were: from Arkansas: E. W. Savage, Booneville; Emma Cox, Osceola; C. C. Mundo and B. F. Busby, Little Rock; from Mississippi: W. S. Taylor, Laurel; W. E. Elkins, Aberdeen; R. X. Williams, Oxford, and Max Connett, Newton; from Tennessee: M. A. Lightman, Sr., president of Malco Theatres, Inc.; J. A. West, Hollywood Theatre; Chalmers Cullins, Idlewild Theatre, all of Memphis, and G. H. Goff, Parsons, Tenn.

Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis, chairman of the board of Theatre Owners of America, told the closing session that "suburban theatre-goers either have to pay prices we consider too high, or wait a year or more to see these pictures. . . . It is an injustice to the . . . public."

Stevens Resigns

TORONTO, Oct. 15.—Resignation of Angelo Stevens, veteran manager, as chairman, was accepted at the re-opening fall meeting of the Ottawa Valley Theatre Managers Association at Chez Henri in Hull, Quebec, and arrangements were made for complete new elections in a week in the same hotel. Stevens has also resigned from 20th Century Theatres and has been in Toronto on new plans.

Await Ascap Decision

(*Continued from page* 1)

directed that Ascap file with the Secretary of State voluminous data concerning every piece of music in its repertoire.

Ascap objected, intending an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court while various of its theatre licensees ceased payment of royalties. Ascap subsequently changed its course and in 1942 claimed to have fully complied with the ruling at a cost, it declared, of $100,000. The society thereupon went to the Washington Superior Court for a declaratory judgment legally establishing that it had complied, and this was granted.

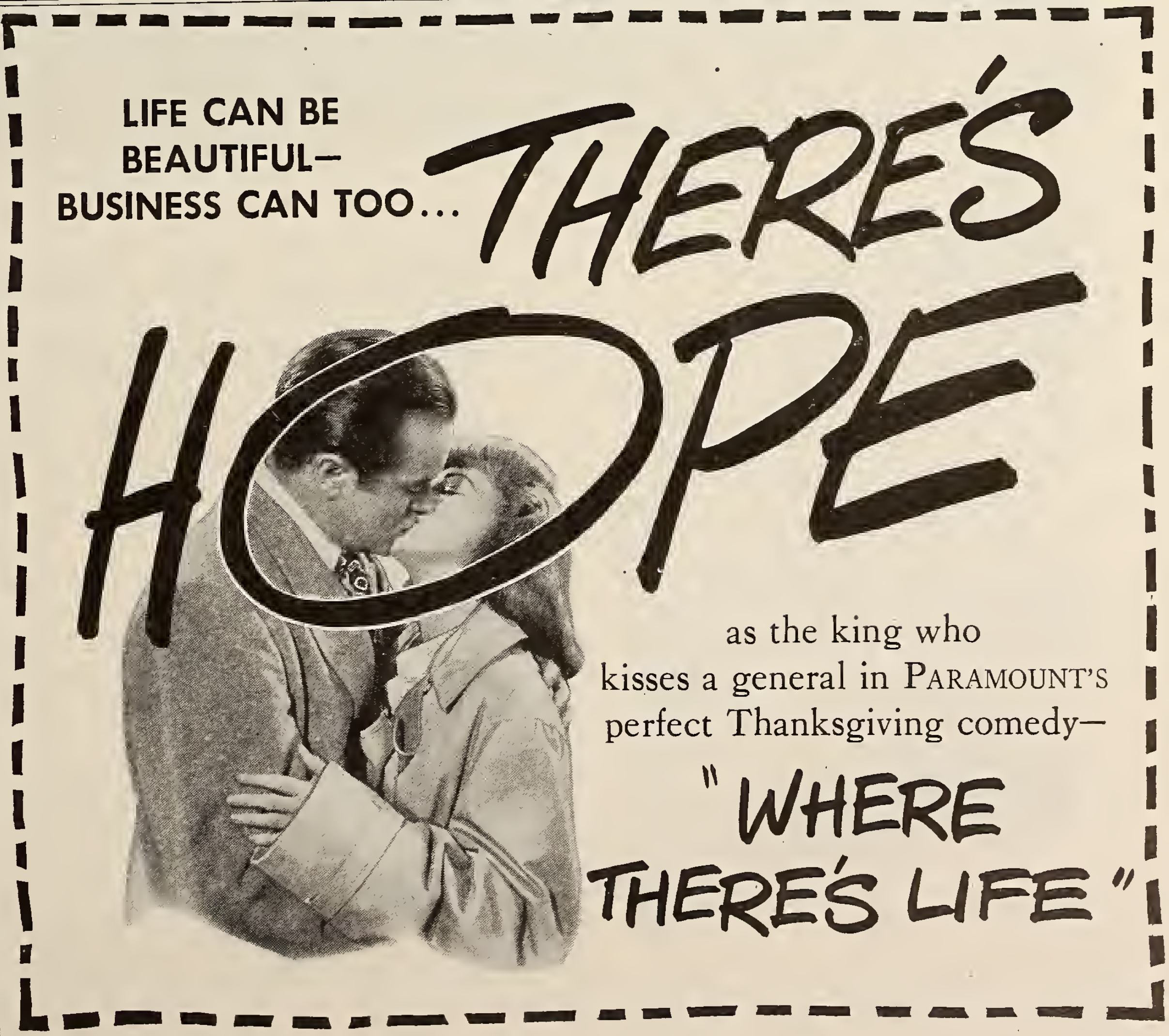
However, intervenors in the case, including the Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, North Idaho and Alaska, took an appeal on the allegation that the society had not complied with the statute.

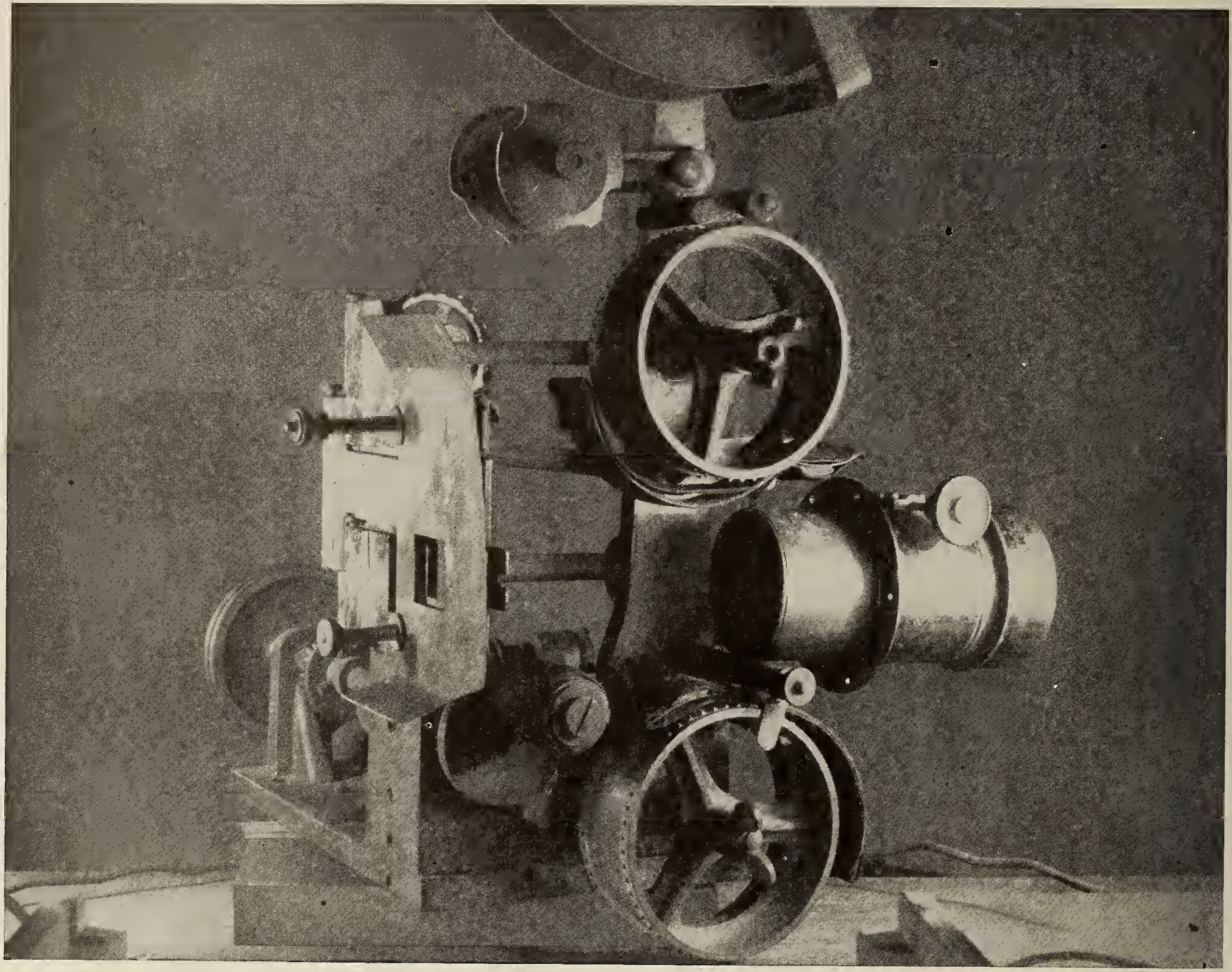
5 More Exchanges

(*Continued from page* 1)

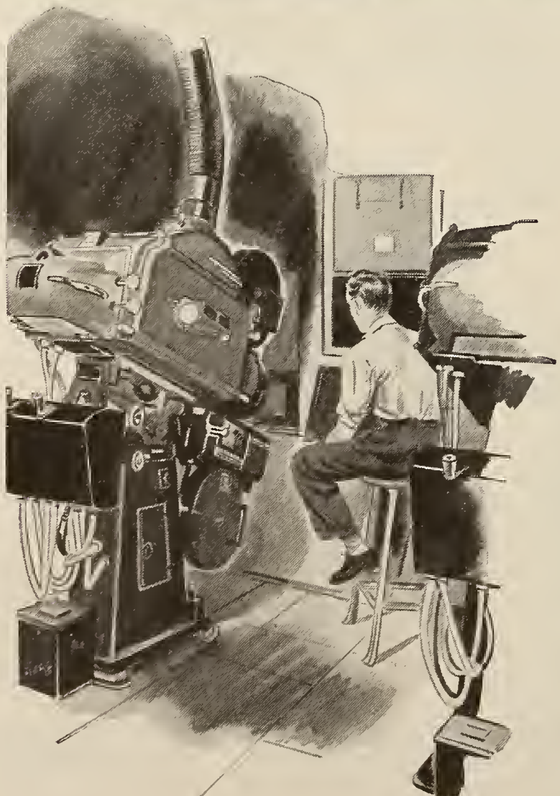
Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Detroit were purchased from Albert Dezel; in Charlotte from J. Francis White, Jr., and in Minneapolis from Joseph Wolf.

Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, who announced the purchase yesterday, said that the company, which recently became associated with Cinecolor Corp., is operating as a separate entity, with all officers intact, with the exception of Edward L. Alperson who has resigned as vice-president and director of the company. Alperson, now on the West Coast, has a six-picture deal with 20th-Fox.





The Armat Vitascope which projected the first theater movie, April 23, 1896.



With this, the "unseen showman" got his epoch-making start . . .

THE projectionist has come a long, long way . . . since the 1890's when he put on his show with equipment such as this.

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VOL. 62. NO. 76 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

D of J Studies Golden State Deal Financing

Naify Takeover Delayed To Oct. 29 in Consequence

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 16.—Final closing of the deal whereby control of Golden State's 104 theatres would pass to "Mike" Naify is understood to have been set back to Oct. 29, pending a reported checkup by the Department of Justice into the groups behind the financing of the $12,000,000 required to purchase the interest of Eugene Emmick and Robert A. McNeil, Naify's partners in the company.

The Justice Department enters the situation, it is further understood, on the rumor that dominant factors in the change of control of the circuit may be United Artists Theatre Circuit, headed by Joseph M. Schenck, and the Skouras interests, the latter presumably being represented by George

(*Continued on page 4*)

Nelson to DC Today; No UK Tax Plan Yet

A joint industry proposal of an alternative to the British *ad valorem* duty has yet to be drawn, all meetings on the subject having been of a general nature, Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, said here yesterday on the eve of his departure for Washington.

Nelson said he will confer at the Capital with Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and "others," whom he declined to identify, on the British matter.

However, he added, he has yet to make specific plans to visit London, accompanied by Johnston, at the request of British officials. Johnston

(*Continued on page 4*)

Fuller, Davis Due Here on U. K. Tax

W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, London, and B. T. Davis, president, are scheduled to arrive in New York by plane within the next few days, and will spend several days here before going to Washington to

(*Continued on page 4*)

UK-Australia Film Deal Under Way

Belief that Britain will soon agree to a plan under which Australian films will be exhibited in the United Kingdom on terms more favorable than those applying to American films has been expressed by government officials in Canberra, according to Australian sources here.

Under terms of the American loan to Britain, films imported from other countries are also subject to the UK *ad valorem* tax at present in effect against American films. Australian sources here say that the matter of favored treatment for Australian films has been under discussion for some time.

Theatre Television At SMPE Meeting

In the first New York showing of RCA's latest developments in large-screen television, a "live" broadcast picked up from NBC will be presented at the Thursday evening theatre engineering session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention at the Hotel Pennsylvania, where the Society's 62nd semi-annual meeting will be in session all next week.

The video broadcast will take place following two papers by RCA engi-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Allied Will Survey Print Shortages

Detroit, Oct. 16.—National Allied will conduct a survey of the reputed film print shortages by checking in every Allied territory, it was learned after the close of board sessions held here this week. There has been growing exhibitor resentment against delays in distribution as a result of shortages of prints.

Figures obtained from the survey will be given to Allied counsel Abram Myers for whatever action may be deemed necessary.

Leave Censorship to The Public: Gamble

The matter of motion picture censorship should be left to the millions of Americans who attend theatres every week, in the opinion of Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America. "They have done a good job of censoring movies through their patronage," he added in a statement issued from TOA headquarters, here, yesterday.

"It has been the experience of the industry that by and large you can't have freedom of the press or any communication if you have self-appointed

(*Continued on page 4*)

AAA's 7th Anniversary Is Near; 344 Awards Made

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

Next month, the motion picture tribunal network of the American Arbitration Association will complete its seventh year of work. Will it go through an eighth year? That question can be answered only by the U. S. Supreme Court when it rules, possibly early next year, on the appeals of the defendants in the industry anti-trust suit. Had the defendants not appealed the decision originally handed down by the New York Federal Court last June, the AAA no longer would have been the focal point for arbitration of clearance or other disputes between exhibitors and distributors. For the Federal Court went no further on the question of AAA other than to give it "a pat on the back" for its work.

The American Arbitration office here has completed a statistical survey

(*Continued on page 4*)

St. Louis Owners Fight '27% Tax'

St. Louis, Oct. 16.—Pounding on the theme that a 27 per cent tax is too much tax, here is driving to enlist public opinion against the city's five per cent amusement levy. The "27 per cent tax" slogan was launched in half-page ads in daily papers which pointed up the Federal, state and proposed city levies and branded them as unfair.

The slogan is being repeated at the end of each day's display ads, is stressed in tax protest trailers, and is announced in blowups in every theatre lobby.

Settlement of Studio Strike Seen at Hand

Walsh Believes It May Come Before Monday

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 16.—The deadlock between the IATSE and the Carpenters Union which has prevented settlement of the Hollywood studio strike appeared about to be broken today as both Richard Walsh, "IA" president, and William Hutcheson, Carpenters president, indicated that an agreement might be reached before they and other studio union leaders involved meet in Hollywood on Monday with Rep. Carroll Kearns and producers' representatives.

The "break" in the two-year old jurisdictional dispute of the studio unions followed action by the American Federation of Labor convention here late last night in referring the controversy back to the AFL execu-

(*Continued on page 4*)

'IA' Locals to Sign Non-'Red' Affidavits

Following the recent ruling by the National Labor Relations Board that local and international officers of labor unions may utilize the machinery of the board despite failure of top federation officials, such as the executive council of the American Federation of Labor or the top Congress of Industrial Organizations leaders, to sign non-Communist affidavits, local unions of the IATSE here are

(*Continued on page 4*)

18 Hit House Probe As Aimed at Control

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—Eighteen screen writers, producers, directors and actors who have been summoned to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities at hearings opening Monday charged today that the goal of the committee is

(*Continued on page 4*)

Reviewed Today

"The Swordsman" is reviewed on page 3.

Personal Mention

SAMUEL GOLDWYN will leave the Coast Oct. 26 for a New York visit.

•

SIR SIDNEY CLIFT, former president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, London, and LADY CLIFT, and DAVID SARNOFF, RCA president, are among passengers who will sail for England today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

HAROLD MIRISCH, Allied Artists vice-president, has returned to Hollywood from Kansas City where he was best man at the wedding of his brother, WALTER, a Monogram producer.

•

ANN MARTIN, secretary to IRVING BIRNBAUM, executive secretary of the Warner Club, will be married to BILL HAZEL, lithograph firm executive, on Oct. 25 here.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic sales manager, and JAMES O'GARA, Eastern division manager, are due in Gloversville, N. Y., next week from New York.

•

M. L. SIMONS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor and public relations head, will return here Monday from Memphis.

•

VICTOR WELLMAN, business manager of IATSE Local No. 160, Cleveland, and ELSIE BERG, Local secretary, were recently married.

•

S. B. VAN DELDEN, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co. sales manager, and CHARLIE FORTSON are back in Atlanta after a business trip to Florida.

•

JOHN J. JONES, Screen Guild Prod. president, is in town from the Coast following a stopover in Chicago en route.

•

SAM SHIRLEY, special M-G-M home office sales representative, has returned to New York from Hawaii.

•

STUART H. AARONS of the Warner legal staff was in Philadelphia yesterday from here.

•

CECIL BARKER, assistant to DAVID O. SELZNICK, is in town from the Coast.

•

JOHN P. BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, has returned to the home office from a New England trip.

•

J. G. TEETER, Altec Service inspector in Cincinnati, and MRS. TEETER have become parents of a son.

•

ARTHUR NEWMAN, Republic branch manager in Albany, N. Y., has been appointed chairman of the amusement

•

MAX KING, producer, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

BENJAMIN THAU, M-G-M studio executive, is in town from the Coast.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THERE aren't so many circuits of 100 houses or better in the industry that an impending change in ownership does not represent first-rate attention. That's the case with Golden State Theatres headquartering in San Francisco.

The history of these negotiations holds much drama with the usual overtones of speculation and rumor. Bob Lippert, expanding Coast theatre operator with the backing of Milton Reynolds, pen manufacturer, seems to have moved in on the ground floor. Initial payments reportedly changed hands. Somewhere in the picture was the circumstance under which each of the three principal partners in Golden State—Mike Naify, Gene Emmick and Bob McNeil—was committed to offer his interest to the others before any outside bid might be entertained.

■

Came the time when Emmick and McNeil, both veteran Pacific Slope theatremen and highly successful, decided to sell, but not to one another. Under the agreement, therefore, their holdings automatically were offered to Naify, who elected to buy for $12,000,000. In order to acquire control, moreover, it was necessary for Naify to take over both Emmick's and McNeil's stock since the three, in combination, control about 67 per cent of the company via United California Theatres, operating company for Golden State.

In the financing setup, the story goes, Naify was pledged $1,000,000 on loan from Joe Schenck presumably acting for United Artists Theatre Circuit, which has no connection whatsoever with United Artists Corp. The attention of the Department of Justice appears to have been drawn to the negotiations on the rumor the financing structure was subject to investigation in order to confirm or dismiss further rumors the Skouras interests were dominant in the picture via George Skouras, who owns a large block of stock in UATC.

This is the place to note that defendants in the Government anti-trust suit are restrained from adding to their theatre holdings.

■

Fox West Coast Theatres, a subsidiary of National Theatres which is wholly owned by 20th Century-Fox, long has owned a 25 per cent interest in the T. and D. Junior Circuit, which is part of Golden State, as well as a like interest in Golden State itself. Nasser Bros., San Francisco and Bay District theatre operators, likewise own stock in Golden State. Despite this crisscrossing of holdings, Golden State has been independent in operations, and its control has resided firmly in the hands of Naify, Emmick and McNeil.

That's how and where this complex situation reportedly stands, plus this:

Naify, who looms as final sole owner of this prosperous chain, has put up the required millions. These millions and the articles of sale are being held in escrow in the vaults of the Bank of America in San Francisco until October 29. By that date, the Justice Department is slated to approve the sale or to declare intention of seeking to block it.

Meanwhile, Lippert and Reynolds await the outcome with more than passing interest. So, too, a lot of film men.

■ ■

It's been done before, not always with sufficient persistence for the values to establish themselves. Yet the idea of a testing laboratory for inexperienced but promising talent is sound despite its earlier background. Latest is Warner, where Producer Jack prefers to describe the project as a "proving ground" and compares it with baseball "farms" maintained by many major league clubs and the Little Theatre movement.

In baseball, it is not uncommon to invest $35,000 and four years of time preparing a hopeful for the big time. This kind of investment, in money and in time, is not too much to devote to budding creative talent. The dividends can run into millions.

■ ■

Hal Roach thinks Hollywood salaries can be slashed 50 per cent without sending anyone to the breadline. He made this statement in New York. Now the question is: Does he dare return to Hollywood?

■ ■

Final shot of "The Lost Moment," a Wanger enterprise for Universal, lingers on the words "Forever Jeffrey," part of a letter around which the plot revolves.

Darryl Zanuck probably will sever diplomatic relations with Universal when he learns about this.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTAT

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
CHARLIE CHAPLIN
'MONSIEUR VERDOUX'
(The Modern Bluebeard)
IN PERSON
JOAN ROBERTS
PAUL HAAKON
EXTRA!
BUCK & BUBBLES
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
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Starring 40 TOP STARS
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
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TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORME
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"Will do your heart good."—*Hale, News*
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
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The Foxes of Harrow
Starring REX HARRISON • MAUREEN O'HARA
20th CENTURY-FOX
ON STAGE! in Person!
MILTON BERLE
and Others!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Production in Slight Drop, To 31 Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—With eight pictures completed and sent to cutting rooms and seven new films going b[illegible] cameras, the production graph r[illegible]ered 31 shooting as against 32 during the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Woman of Tangier", "West of Sonora", "Wreck of the Hesperus", "Blondie's Night Out".
Shooting: "The Return of October" "Coroner Creek".

Eagle Lion

Started: "The Hawk of Powder River" (PRC), with Eddie Dean, Roscoe Ates, Jennifer Holt.
Shooting: "Prelude to Night".

Enterprise

Started: "So This Is New York" (Screen Plays, Inc.), starring Henry Morgan with Rudy Vallee, Hugh Herbert, Virginia Grey, Bill Goodwin, Dona Drake, Leo Gorcey, Frank Orth, Dave Willock.

M-G-M

Started: "State of the Union" (Liberty), with Spencer Tracy, Claudette Colbert, Van Johnson, Angela Lansbury, Adolph Menjou.
Finished: "Luxury Liner".
Shooting: "Hills of Home", "B. F.'s Daughter", "Homecoming".

Monogram

Finished: "Jiggs and Maggie in Society".
Shooting: "Panhandle".

Paramount

Finished: "The Paleface".

Republic

Started: "Old Los Angeles", with William Elliott, John Carroll, Catherine McLeod.
Shooting: "Campus Honeymoon", "California Firebrand."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Joan", "I Remember Mama", "Rachel", "Berlin Express", "Stations West", "Good Sam".

20th-Fox

Started: "Deep Water", with Dana Andrews, Jean Peters, Caesar Romero.
Finished: "The Snake Pit".
Shooting: "Call Northside 777", "Ballad of Furnace Creek", "The Flaming Age".

Universal-International

Started: "All My Sons", starring Edward G. Robinson and Burt Lancaster, with Mady Christians, Howard Duff, Arlene Francis, Frank Conroy, Lloyd Gough, Henry Morgan. "Up In Central Park", with Deanna Durbin, Dick Haymes, Vincent Price, Albert Sharpe, Thurston Hall, Moroni Olsen, Nelle Fisher, Bunny Waters.
Shooting: "A Letter from an Unknown Woman".

Warners

Shooting: "Winter Meeting", "Johnny Belinda", "April Showers", "To the Victor", "Christopher Blake".

Review

"The Swordsman"

(*Columbia*)

SHAKESPEARE'S famous "Romeo and Juliet" told the tragic tale of two lovers caught in a bitter, ancient feud between their families. Columbia's "The Swordsman" plunges into a similar yarn of lovers whose wooing is complicated by a fierce enmity existing between two proud Scottish clans, although it ends quite happily. Done in Technicolor, which brings out the beauty of the simulated Scotch countryside and Scotch costumes, smoothly-paced, filled with sword play, and giving Larry Parks, its star, an opportunity to play a gallant hero to the hilt. "The Swordsman" is box-office product calculated to fill the till.

The MacArdens and the Glowans have fought each other for a century in the Scottish highlands, when Parks, as the son of the MacArden chieftain, returns from 10 years of school in England. There is a chance meeting with Ellen Drew, niece of the head of the Glowan clan, and love blossoms. Parks, using another name, appears at a Glowan tournament and wins a trophy, but is suspected of being a MacArden by George MacReady, hot-headed son of the Glowan chieftain.

Complication then follows complication. Parks is attacked from ambush by MacReady and Michael Duane, another son of the Glowan chieftain. Parks kills Duane, but MacReady, who is also a suitor for Miss Drew's hand, escapes and accuses Parks of an ambush murder. The Glowans capture Parks, who believes for a time that Miss Drew has betrayed him. She aids in his release, and both Parks and his lady plead that peace be established between the two clans.

Parks succeeds in restoring peaceful relations, but his efforts are almost thwarted by MacReady. Again, Miss Drew intervenes to bring about the safe establishment of lasting peace, and the marriage of the handsome couple brings the picture to a romantic finale.

Throughout the production there are exciting duels, a flood of pleasant Scotch brogues in imaginative dialogue, and, of course, fetching love scenes. Several scenes of lavish feasts, with castle tables crammed with roasts, may invite ironic contrast with the present food conservation program here.

Other players, who perform well, include Edgar Buchanan, Ray Collins, Marc Platt, William Bevan and Holmes Herbert. Burt Kelly was the producer, Joseph H. Lewis directed, from an original screenplay by Wilfrid H. Pettitt, and Hugo Friedhoffer wrote the pleasing musical score.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

12 High Budget Films from RKO

Between now and Jan. 1, a total of 12 top-budget films will be presented by RKO Radio, Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president, reports. Heading the list are Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Walt Disney's "Fun and Fancy Free," and Robert Riskin's "Magic Town," all now running pre-release engagements.

Others are: "So Well Remembered," presented by RKO Radio Pictures and J. Arthur Rank; "The Fugitive," directed by John Ford; "If You Knew Susie," co-starring Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis; "Fighting Father Dunne," with Pat O'Brien; "Design for Death," a documentary, with Kent Smith and Hans Conried as narrators; "Night Song," John Cromwell production; Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife"; "Tycoon," starring John Wayne and Laraine Day, in Technicolor and Dore Schary's "I Remember Mama," starring Irene Dunne.

To Mark 20th Year Of Sound Newsreels

A dinner observing the 20th anniversary of sound newsreels will be held on Oct. 31 in the preview room of the Monte Carlo here, with Courtland Smith, pioneer in the field, as honor guest.

One of the features of the evening will be the showing of an original sound newsreel, shown in Oct., 1927, at the Roxy Theatre, here. Among those attending will be Earl Sponable, who developed one of the first portable sound systems for newsreels.

Schlaifer Winds Up Field Product Meets

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, is due here Monday following field meetings with exhibitors and circuit executives, on campaign plans for "Forever Amber," "Gentleman's Agreement," and "Daisy Kenyon."

Schlaifer, earlier in the week, declared in San Francisco that industry personnel must guide the thinking of the public in relation to the screen's importance to the American way of life. Also, at the studio, he conferred with Joseph M. Schenck, Darryl F. Zanuck and Harry Brandt.

St. Louis Theatre Fire

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 16.—The St. Clair Theatre in East St. Louis was destroyed by fire of undetermined origin at two A.M. today. Fire Chief Wright estimated the damage at $75,000, which Edwin Ditzenberg, owner, said is only partly covered by insurance.

Special 'Amber' Screening

Publishers, industrialists and representatives of the nation's public opinion media were guests of Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, at a special preview showing here last night of "Forever Amber." The film will be released nationally next week.

Mary Winkle Dies

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 16.—Mrs. Mary Winkle, mother of Mrs. Jack Auslet, motion picture trade correspondent in New Orleans, died Tuesday at the age of 84. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Mound, Minn., a suburb of Minneapolis.

$247,721 to Mono. Chiefs Last Year

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Some $247,721 aggregate remunerations were paid by Monogram and its subsidiaries to company directors during the year ended June 28, latest report to stockholders shows.

Amounts received individually are as follows: W. Ray Johnston, board chairman, $43,298 (representing a deficiency of $28,308 compared with the preceding year); Steve Broidy, company president, $100,147 (representing an excess of $21,805 compared with the preceding year); George D. Burrows, executive vice-president and treasurer, $42,488 ($7,555 in excess); Howard Stubbins, partner of Monogram of California, $1,300; Herman Rifkin, president of Liberty Theatres, $400; Edward Morey, vice-president, $29,494 ($2,802 in excess); Charles Trampe, owner of Monogram Midwest, $400; William Hurlbut, president of Monogram of Detroit, $300; Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern, $400 ($100 in excess), and Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram-International, $29,494 ($4,352 in excess).

Company employes who during the year received remuneration in excess of $20,000 are: general sales manager M. Goldstein, $29,269; Scott Dunlap, executive assistant to the president, $39,988; director of sales L. J. Schlaifer, $30,300; actress Belita Jepson-Turner, $60,330; actress Gale Storm, $23,400; actor Leo Gorcey, $42,663; actor Charles Ruggles, $27,500; actor Victor Moore, $67,166; actress Ann Harding, $25,000; actor Anthony Quinn, $30,833; director Roy Del Ruth, $70,000; actor Preston Foster, $25,000; actor Barry Sullivan, $40,000; actor Akim Tamiroff, $20,000, and producer Jeffrey Bernerd, $28,882.

Small Is Producing 'Cagliostro' in Italy

ROME, Oct. 12 (By Airmail).—Production has begun at Tivoli, Italy, on "Cagliostro," believed to be the first all-American film to be produced here since sound. The picture is being produced by Edward Small. Gregory Ratoff is directing and Orson Welles stars.

The picture is being produced here to use up some of the blocked funds accruing to Small. Currently all remittances on American films are blocked here, but may be spent in the country. The picture, it is estimated, would cost $3,000,000 if produced in America. By producing here the company estimates it will save almost $1,400,000 of that figure.

Canada Music Unit To Weigh Fee Rise

MONTREAL, Oct. 16.—A meeting is expected to be held shortly by directors of the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada to discuss plans for increasing music royalties from film theatres in Canada. CAPAC corresponds to the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers in the U. S. and the Performing Rights Society in Great Britain.

CAPAC's move is said to be prompted by the raises of the corresponding organizations in the U. S. and Britain. British fees, which are always higher than in Canada, will be doubled in 1948.

Strike Settlement

(*Continued from page 1*)

tive council. The convention, reaffirming its support of the council in the matter, urged the unions involved in the dispute to make every possible effort to settle the controversy this time.

Both the "IA" and the Carpenters were reinforced last night with Hollywood studio union representatives, ready to champion their respective causes in the event discussion of the dispute was opened on the floor of the convention. However, the orators kept under wraps, apparently holding their fire for private sessions which are being held today and tomorrow.

Walsh said he regarded an agreement as possible before Monday's meeting in Hollywood.

Kearns Invites Sorrell To See Him on Sunday

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Although Representative Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of the House Labor subcommittee which recently held hearings here on the jurisdictional dispute, has made arrangements for a meeting Monday morning at the Biltmore Hotel with union principals involved in the studio labor fight, there were indications today that the congressman may hold private sessions with individual labor leaders on Sunday as a prelude.

While local IATSE officials are attending the American Federation of Labor convention in San Francisco, it was learned that Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, had received a request to meet Kearns Sunday as well as on Monday. IATSE headquarters here said it had no knowledge concerning such an undertaking by Kearns.

On the other hand, a further development disclosed that major producers, who had been invited to attend all previous meetings, have neither received an invitation to the Monday session nor been informed officially that a meeting would take place.

'IA' Locals to Sign

(*Continued from page 1*)

now preparing to submit affidavits to the NLRB within a few days.

Originally, through a ruling of Robert N. Denham, general counsel of the NLRB, local and international unions, even if their own leaders signed non-Communist affidavits under the Taft-Hartley law, would have been unable to resort to the board if top federation leaders did not comply with this provision. The NLRB subsequently reversed Denham's ruling.

The IATSE, it is understood, had delayed its decision on whether or not to sign until Richard F. Walsh, international president of the "IA," could ascertain the opinion of executive council leaders of the AFL. However, the NLRB ruling, plus the subsequent decision of most top AFL leaders to sign the affidavits, gave the 'IA' the "go-ahead" signal on signing.

'IA'-Consolidated Meet

Contract negotiations between representatives of the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, and Consolidated Film Laboratories are scheduled to be resumed next week after having been stalemated for more than a month.

Hit House Probe

(*Continued from page 1*)

"control" of the motion picture industry "through intimidation of the executive heads of the industry—and through further legislation."

In an open letter to the motion picture industry, they declared that such control "means a lifeless and reactionary screen which will become artistically, culturally and financially bankrupt."

Signers of the letter included: Alvah Bessie, Herbert Biberman, Lester Cole, Richard Collins, Edward Dymtryk, Gordon Kahn, Howard Koch, Ring Lardner, Jr., John Howard Lawson, Albert Maltz, Lewis B. Milestone, Samuel Ornitz, Irving Pichel, Larry Parks, Robert Rosson, Adrian Scott, Waldo Salt and Dalton Trumbo.

Eight of the signers of the letter are scheduled to participate in an open discussion here Monday night, along with attorneys Bartley C. Crum and Robert W. Kenny, on the subject of "Is the Committee a Legislative Investigation or a Device for Thought Control?"

Defer Hearing Chaplin

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The House Committee on Un-American Activities has postponed until a later unspecified date the questioning of Charles Chaplin, originally scheduled to be one of the first to testify at the hearings on Hollywood.

To Air House Hearings

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—American Broadcasting will record highlights of the House Un-American Activities hearings on alleged Communism in Hollywood, beginning on Monday, for re-broadcast on the evening of each day's hearing.

Golden State Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

Skouras, who also is an officer of UATC.

The question ties to the acquisition of additional interests in exhibition by companies and groups which are currently defendants in the Government anti-trust suit now before the U. S. Supreme Court for disposition.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The Department of Justice confirmed today that it is studying various phases of the recent purchase of the Robert McNeil and Eugene Emmick interests in Golden State Theatres, California, by M. L. Naify but did not disclose the reasons for the study.

United Artists Theatre Circuit officials in New York yesterday disclaimed knowledge of any UATC participation in the Golden State circuit deal, adding that, if there were any, it would be handled entirely on the Coast.

Philatelists To Meet

A meeting of the Cinema Stamp Collectors will be held at the Astor Hotel here on Oct. 22, according to Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager and a member of the stamp unit's publicity staff.

Fire Destroys La. Theatre

LAKE CHARLES, La., Oct. 16. — The Dixie Theatre here was completely destroyed by fire.

E-L To Fight Chicago 'Railroaded' Banning

Banning by the Chicago Board of Censors of Eagle-Lion's "Railroaded" will be contested by the company "with every legal means at its disposal," according to Max E. Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity director.

Picture was banned by the censors on the ground that it "shows the police prosecuting an innocent man," and for "excessive killings." E-L will contend that the film does not violate any section of the censors' code.

Chicago Puts 'Adult' Tag On 'Verdoux' and 'Amber'

CHICAGO, Oct. 16.—For the first time in this city's exhibition history, the Film Censor Board has given a Charles Chaplin film a "pink ticket," tagging it "for adults only." "Monsieur Verdoux," which will open at the Grand on Oct. 22, has been ticketed in this way because of its theme of murder and sex, the board said. 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber," due at the State Lake before the end of the month, has also been limited to adults.

Censorship

(*Continued from page 1*)

guardians of the rights of people," continued Gamble. "A heterogenous collection of censor boards appear in various sections of the country, all operating by a different set of standards. They usually have been promoted by groups of professional dogooders that would destroy the very thing they seek to protect.

"The industry has done a fine job of self-censorship," he added. "The motion picture industry is wholly dependent on written material for pictures. I submit the pictures have done a splendid job of dealing with borderline material on which they've depended for stories."

Tri-States Names Gamble, Wehrenberg Honor Members

Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, and Fred Wehrenberg, chairman of the TOA board, have been elected honorary members of the Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners, the first such honors ever bestowed by Tri-States. Both Gamble and Wehrenberg addressed the Tri-States convention in Memphis this week.

Censor Approves 'Amber'

MEMPHIS, Oct. 16.—Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the Memphis Board of Censors, announced today that "Forever Amber," has been approved by the board. The picture will open at Loew's State on Thursday, Oct. 23.

"They've cleaned it up from what Life Magazine said about it," Binford said. "The picture is all right for adults but I wouldn't recommend it for children."

40 to Milwaukee Meet

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 16.—More than 40 exhibitors from the Minneapolis zone are expected to accept the invitation of North Central Allied, Minneapolis, to make up a contingent for a special car to attend the annual convention of Allied States at Milwaukee, Dec. 1-3, it was stated by Stanley Kane, NCA executive director.

AAA's Anniversary

(*Continued from page 1*)

of motion picture arbitration activities since Feb. 1, 1941, when it began handling industry disputes in accordance with the provisions of the consent decree in the anti-trust case. A total of 511 cases have been filed to date; of these 141 were withdrawn. The tribunals, which operate in key cities across the country, have handed down a total of 344 awards. Some 135 of these were later appealed to the board set up for that p[illegible]e by the U. S. District Court. Only three of those appeals still pend.

Of the 511 cases filed, only 26 are pending. Between Feb. 1, 1941, and Nov. 30, 1941, the AAA had its heaviest period, with 148 filings. This inundation, and the one which came during the following year when 116 were filed, was expected at the outset. Something of a tapering off in filings followed. In 1943, 83 were filed; in 1944, 45; in 1945, 32, and in 1946, 49. Thus far this year 38 cases have been filed.

Theatre Television

(*Continued from page 1*)

neers I. G. Maloff and R. V. Little. The session will be presided over by Donald E. Hyndman.

Though not intended as a demonstration of perfected theatre television, the RCA demonstration is in the nature of an interim report showing the most recent achievements toward eventual television for theatres.

Another television session, to be presided over by Paul J. Larsen, chairman of the SMPE committee on television, will take place Tuesday evening when papers will be presented by W. Feldman, J. L. Boon and J. Stoiber of Eastman Kodak; Thomas T. Goldsmith, Jr., and Harry Milholland of DuMont; Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, consulting engineer; A. G. D. West, director of Cinema-Television, Ltd., London, and Larsen. All will deal with theatre television.

Nelson to DC

(*Continued from page 1*)

said, following an MPA board meeting in Washington last week, that he intended to discuss the invitation with Nelson. The conclusion thus might be drawn that the trip to England is on the agenda of today's meeting.

Nelson did not deny the possibility of differences between the MPA and SIMPP when questioned on the independents' position regarding Britain's freezing of funds, which is known to be agreeable to some extent to MPA members, and not favored by independents. A parting of the ways "might be," he conceded, adding however, "we have not come to that yet."

Fuller, Davis Due

(*Continued from page 1*)

begin discussions with Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, on all phases of the British film tax situation, including proposals for alternatives to the tax.

In accepting the CEA's suggestion for the Fuller-Davis visit, Johnston cabled the two last week suggesting they arrange to arrive in Washington between Oct. 25 and 30. Actually, they plan to be in Washington next Wednesday or Thursday.

Fuller and Davis will stay with friends in New York before going to Washington.

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U.K. Tax Issue May Be Set Here: Balaban

MPA Board May Hear Fuller, Davis Tomorrow

Substantiating earlier reports from London, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, said here at the weekend that negotiations aimed at a determination of the British *ad valorem* tax issue may be entered into on an official basis in New York and Washington with the expected arrival here shortly of Sir Wilfred Eadie, highly-placed British treasury official.

At the present time, there is no definite indication that a U. S. film delegation will journey to London, Balaban said,

(*Continued on page 7*)

AFL Fails in Try For Studio Peace

San Francisco, Oct. 19.—The American Federation of Labor convention here adjourned on Friday without having accomplished anything regarded as likely to hasten a settlement of the Hollywood studio strike or even to smooth the way for an agreement at the meeting of heads of the striking unions with Rep. Carroll Kearns, chairman of the House Labor

(*Continued on page 6*)

Name TOA Group On High Admissions

Lewen Pizor, Philadelphia; H. F. Kincey, North Carolina, and Max Yellen of Buffalo have been appointed to the Theatre Owners of America committee, headed by S. H. Fabian, to initiate studies of advanced admission-priced product already in release or planned by distributors.

The committee, named by Ted R.

(*Continued on page 7*)

4 Reviews Today

"It Had to Be You" and "The Exile" are reviewed on page 4; "The Invisible Wall" and "Bowery Buckaroos" on page 6.

U.K. Considers Blocking Tax Free Dollars

London, Oct. 19. — If Britain's rapidly dwindling dollar reserve is not replenished soon by the U. S., Britain is expected to find itself obliged to utilize its sterling currency reserve to pay for essential imports, official sources have stated. In this event, further food cuts will result and, in turn, provoke a Parliamentary demand that remittances be blocked on the earnings of American films now showing but not subject to the Dalton *ad valorem* tax, it was said.

The British Government has been described as "gravely concerned" over the dollar situation here, and plans are said to be ready to implement blocking of remittances on the tax-free American pictures if it becomes necessary to utilize the gold reserves.

Film Dividends Up 10% Over Year Ago

Washington, Oct. 19.—Cash dividend payments by motion picture companies during September rose 10 per cent over September, 1946, the Department of Commerce reports.

Total for September, 1947, was $8,-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Liberty Transfer Is Nearing Completion

All assets of Liberty Films will formally shift to Paramount shortly, probably this week, with the transfer of stock, approved by the Treasury Department under capital gains tax laws now being arranged on the Coast. Fred Mohrhardt, Paramount treasurer, is in Hollywood from New York, working on final details.

Cartoon Rental Rise Necessary: Lantz

Hollywood, Oct. 19.—Only salvation for cartoon producers is higher rentals from exhibitors, according to Walter Lantz, president of the Screen Cartoon Producers Association, who says limitation of domestic revenues due to the British *ad valorem* tax is the climax to developments which have pushed costs up 165 per cent since 1942, while grosses from rentals have advanced only 12 per cent.

Pointing out that Columbia and George Pal have ceased cartoon production entirely, Lantz compares the 1942 total of 173 for all companies, with the total of 93 to August of this year, and he holds prospects are that not more than a dozen will be added to that figure.

Lantz said members of the SCPA have discussed various means for meeting their separate problems.

Canada Film Remittances Tightened to Save Dollars

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—Move has been made by the Foreign Exchange Control Board of Canada, apparently directed towards conserving U. S. dollars, which will involve a change in the board's regulations governing the payment of dividends, profits and interests to non-resident parent companies or head offices. This, of course, would apply to American motion picture companies having such connections or interests in Canada, and these interests are considerable, as in the case of Paramount.

In the future, the Foreign Exchange Control Board, here, will in general approve remittances of earnings of Canadian subsidiaries and branches of foreign companies only to the extent of one year's net distributable earnings during any one fiscal period, and provided the companies show they are able to finance the remittances from their own resources without unduly weakening their working capital position. Also, where such a firm in Canada is borrowing or may have to borrow in the next year for expansion purposes, no dividend payment will be permitted.

Companies having an accumulation of earnings will have the choice of paying the amount of the earnings represented by either the first or last year of the accumulation, but payments will not ordinarily be authorized sooner than three months from the close of the fiscal year to which they relate.

Previously, Canadian subsidiaries could apply at any time to remit earnings accumulated over the period since the start of exchange control in Canada.

Witnesses Set For Battle Of Headlines

Un-American Committee Opens Red Probe Today

Washington, Oct. 19. — Industry figures converged in Washington over the week-end for what is regarded here as the biggest event on Capitol Hill since the Howard Hughes' hearing last summer—the opening week of the Un-American Activities Committee hearings on communist infiltration in Hollywood.

On hand are Paul V. McNutt, who has the full time job of coordinating the industry's case before the committee, Louis B. Mayer and Jack Warner, who are slated to be among the first witnesses, top executives of the Motion Picture Association, and representatives of both right and left wing Hollywood groups.

Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas (Rep., N. J.) will fire the opening barrel Monday morning when he outlines committee procedure. Committee spokesmen expect that emphasis will be on individual affiliations rather than on an attempt to place a burden on the industry as a whole. Special pictures will be cited during the hearings, however.

Expect No Cross-Questions

Trade sources here also expect that Thomas will follow precedent and outlaw cross-questioning on the part of industry witnesses and attorneys. MPA president Eric Johnston will not be called before the end of the second week, spokesmen said.

Despite earlier indications that newsreel photographers would be barred from the hearings after witnesses had been sworn in, Chairman Thomas declared over the week-end that the entire proceedings may be photographed, and transcribed.

Say French 'Freeze' Order Is Imminent

Paris, Oct. 19. — An order freezing distribution revenue of foreign films in France is imminent, a Treasury spokesman said here yesterday.

No details of the form the order will take or its provisions were disclosed but it was indicated that it will be effective immediately upon publication.

Personal Mention

ROBERT H. O'BRIEN, secretary of Paramount, will return here today from Washington.

•

RICHARD PERRY has resigned as United Artists salesman to become a salesman for Film Classics in Albany, N. Y., succeeding JOSEPH CALLAHAN, son of E. X. CALLAHAN, 20th Century-Fox district manager in Boston.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here today to attend the Kentucky Theatre Owners convention in Louisville.

•

DANIEL T. O'SHEA, Vanguard president, and E. L. SCANLON, vice-president, left here for Hollywood at the weekend.

•

SAM SHAIN, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor and public relations chief, returned to New York at the weekend from Memphis.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, will return to the home office today from studio conferences.

•

JOAQUIN D. RICKARD, Motion Picture Association Latin American manager, will leave here today for a South American survey.

•

WILLIAM BRANDT, head of Brandt Theatres, has been discharged from Doctor's Hospital here and is due back at his desk in about 10 days.

•

SCHUYLER BEATTIE has become head booker and office manager for Paramount in Albany, N. Y., succeeding JOHN MOHAN, resigned.

•

AL NORTON, manager of the Dreamland Theatre, Lorain, O., until it was recently destroyed by fire, has been named manager of the Plaza Theatre.

•

RENE CLAIR, RKO Radio producer-director, arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

•

ROLAND YOUNG will return here today from England on the *SS Mauretania*.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M shorts sales, will return to his desk here today from vacation.

•

ALVIN ASHER of M-G-M's studio legal department, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

ALBERT GARDNER will leave his post of executive secretary of Variety Club, Chicago, in February.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, head of RKO Radio's Eastern talent division, is back in New York from Hollywood.

•

VICTOR SAVILLE has returned to the Coast from New York.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

AS it becomes more and more apparent that the industry's chances of getting any appreciable amount of revenue from Britain for the next several years are almost nil, the basis for acceptance of that situation and, thereafter, for formulation of an interim agreement, takes on a new aspect.

A compromise in lieu of the confiscatory British *ad valorem* film tax is no less possible today than ever before. It may be said also that it is no less difficult of accomplishment today than it was before and the blame for that lies with Britain's Sir Stafford Cripps.

It was Cripps who, in complete disregard of alternative proposals from the American industry, and in equal disregard of official assurances given the British industry that the matter would be discussed before action was taken, saw to it that the confiscatory tax was imposed arbitrarily, without consultation with representatives of either industry.

By so doing Cripps transformed a trade matter into a governmental issue. He has since recognized it as such by declining to discuss directly with American industry representatives a "government matter."

Apparently, he is now deputizing representatives of the British industry to do what he prevented them from doing by governmental action originally, and what he since has refused to do himself—that is, to discuss alternatives.

•

It is doubtful whether there is a single responsible American film executive who does not realize and sympathize with Britain's critical economic condition.

It is equally doubtful that there is one among them, possessing such understanding of Britain's straits, who would not have been willing to lose his balance leaning backwards to make an equitable agreement at great cost to the American industry for a reasonable period of time, had a decent man-to-man approach been made to them either by a responsible member of the Attlee government or by a properly accredited representative of the British industry.

But Cripps, either by nature or by the acquired characteristics of his political philosophy, chose the unilateral, dictatorial method—the ukase. What he didn't know, or overlooked, was that Americans don't like to do business that way—even with governments.

•

It is the confirmed belief of many top executives in the American industry that, left to their own resources, the British and American industries could have and would have worked out an acceptable agreement on their own.

These executives know that Britain is a dollar bankrupt.

Over here that does not mean that you refuse to do business with an erstwhile good customer who, temporarily, has come upon hard going. Credit is established by good customers in other ways than by having money in the bank.

You can, if you so choose, see a good customer through a trying period.

Conceivably, some in the industry would be inclined to go to the verge of providing British customers with films at cost during the period of distress. But not even these would be willing to pay the British government a 75 per cent import duty for the privilege of holding some British exhibitors' heads above water.

It is to be hoped that before too great harm has been done Cripps will awaken to the fact that compromise is possible but it can be greatly facilitated by early revocation of his arbitrary and confiscatory tax.

In fact, just as Cripps stated so positively recently: "No dollars, no films," there are those on this side who say with equal positiveness: "No films while the Cripps' tax remains."

• •

Leaders of the Independent Theatre Owners of New York proclaimed publicly that they "wanted no favors of Ascap."

That was their way of saying they were not interested in obtaining a delay of the effective date of the higher music taxes asked by the licensing society nor in negotiating with it for lower rates. They will place their trust instead in litigation and legislation against Ascap.

Litigation and legislation take a great deal of time.

What's wrong with lowering the Ascap bill while you're waiting, boys?

Newsreel Parade

TALKS by Marshall and Byrnes are prominently featured in current newsreels. Other subjects include the coal shortage in Germany, the Royal Family pre-wedding photo, General Eisenhower receiving a jeweled sword and sports and other subjects. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 15—Ma[illegible]l and Byrnes talk on foreign policy. U. S. Consulate in Palestine bombed. Coal shortage in Germany. British Royal Family poses. General Eisenhower receives sword. Admiral Nimitz made Indian chief. Ski fashions. Three-year-old swimmer.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 213—Marshall calls on labor to back U. S. foreign policy. Germans "pan" for precious coal. U. S. Consulate bombed. New birth record set. Royal Family portrait. Admiral Nimitz joins redskins. Sports. Columbia University's return to pre-war educational standards.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 16—Yankees and Dodgers on gridiron. Birth news. German shortages imperil revival. Byrnes urges showdown with Russians. Eisenhower for President campaign grows. Royal Family portrait.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 83—Draught causes shutdown of German factories. Chinese naval cadets trained by American instructors. Eisenhower receives jeweled sword from Dutch. "G.I.s" and families arrive in Australia. Football. Steeplechase thrills at Belmont Park.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 18—High waters in Miami area. Royal Family poses. Power famine grips Europe. Father and five sons run unique clinic. Paris crippled by strike. Makes Britain's best home brew.

French Promise to Lift Dubbing Ban

French officials in Paris have promised to rescind immediately the order prohibiting dubbing of U. S. film in France, which became effective Sept. 20 and was to have continued until Nov. 20, it was disclosed here at the weekend by Gerald Mayer, chief of the international division of the Motion Picture Association.

The French National Center of Cinematography issued the decree on dubbing after French producers complained that they had been unable to get sufficient raw stock for their needs.

This order was protested at once by Frank McCarthy, continental manager of MPA on the ground that it was an act of discrimination against a group of American film companies which had conducted their business legally and ethically in France.

Aarons Again Heads Warner Bros. Club

Stuart H. Aarons, member of Warner's legal staff, here, was reelected president of the national Warner Club, Inc., at the annual meeting on Saturday in New York.

Others elected are vice-presidents Robert A. McGuire; Bernard Rosenzweig, in charge of membership; Ruth Weisberg, in charge of welfare; Fred Stengl, in charge of claims; Harry Mayer, in charge of social activities; and Robert Salomons, treasurer; Sam Wolowitz, assistant treasurer, and Theodore R. Kupferman, secretary.

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VARIETY CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

VOL

says, from the bottom of the
Heart of Showbusiness,

"Thanks, Paramount", for

VARIETY GIRL

the picture all America has taken to its heart!

The 24th and final key-city Premiere of "Variety Girl" took place Oct. 8th under the auspices of Variety Clubs International.

These benefit performances—made possible by Paramount through the magnificent cooperation of Charles M. Reagan—have netted approximately $200,000 to local Heart Funds to help under-privileged children in their own communities.

The gratitude of Variety Clubs International is extended to Paul Short for the original idea for this picture, to the owners of the twenty-four theatres which were made available without any charge for our benefit premieres, and to the entire Paramount organization, including the forty great stars whose talents make "Variety Girl" a show that's

"BIG AS THE HEART OF SHOW BUSINESS"

—VARIETY CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

JOHN H. HARRIS	R. J. O'DONNELL
International Big Boss	*International Chief Barker*

1st SMPE Warner Award to Maurer

John A. Maurer, head of J. A. Maurer, Inc., manufacturers of 16mm. cameras and recorders, is the first to win the newly-created annual Sam Warner Memorial Medal of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, it was announced here Saturday by SMPE president Lauren L. Ryder, following an SMPE board meeting.

The award, which will be presented Wednesday evening at the SMPE's semi-annual banquet, to be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, will go to Maurer for his "pioneering in the development of 16mm. sound recording." The medal is in memory of the late Warner Brothers official.

To facilitate open-forum discussions at the theatre engineering and general sessions of the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, opening today at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here, C. R. Keith, editorial vice-president of the Society, has appointed 12 chairmen to preside at various clinical sessions.

The chairmen include Leonard Satz of Century Circuit, who will preside at the session on physical construction of theatres this afternoon; John Eberson, architect, auditorium design, tonight; William H. Rivers, general technical session, Tuesday morning; A. G. Ashcroft, Carpet Institute of America, floor coverings, Tuesday afternoon; Donald E. Hyndman, Eastman Kodak, Television, Tuesday evening; G. T. Lorance, General Precision Laboratories, General Technical Session, Wednesday morning.

Also: Lester B. Isaac, Loew's, Lighting, Wednesday afternoon; Henry Anderson, Paramount, Safety and Maintenance, Thursday afternoon; Paul J. Larsen, SMPE, Television, Thursday evening; Carlton Sawyer, Western Electric, General Technical Session, Friday morning; Dr. Harvey Fletcher of Bell Laboratories, Acoustics, Friday afternoon; Seymour Seider, Prudential Playhouses, Ventilating and Air Conditioning, Friday evening.

Color Innovation at SMPE Convention

A new departure, says the SMPE, in the use of color for film presentation—the application of dynamic luminous color in screen and auditorium lighting—will be revealed by R. Gillespie Williams, of Williams, Inc., at tonight's theatre engineering session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention.

Exhibit Transportation

During the SMPE convention, the Manufacturers Machine and Tool Co., Inc., of Mount Vernon, N. Y., will provide transportation between the convention hall and its plant at least twice a day for those wishing to see a demonstration of its "flickerless" 35 mm. projector. Harry Hollander, the company's representative, will be in attendance during the week to make transportation arrangements.

Nu-Screen at Meet

A scale model of Nu-Screen will be displayed in booths at the SMPE convention, Stanley W. Hand, general sales manager, announced. Also displayed will be a 40 by 60 screen listing of Nu-Screen installations from coast to coast.

Reviews

"It Had to Be You"

(Columbia)

FOR her debut under the banner of Columbia, Ginger Rogers has been given a laughter-laden fantasy that scurries busily in and out of farcical complications. Miss Rogers sets a spirited pace that keeps Cornel Wilde on his nimble toes in his dual role as her romantic opposite. Comedy is the main concern of the story, which is filled with dream sequences and Freudian symbolisms that are reduced to popular simplifications. The yarn appears to be compounded of plot twists that have a slightly familiar character, but the job is enjoyably done and it should keep the turnstiles revolving cheerfully. Besides the winsome title, there are numerous other angles that suggest easy exploitation.

Imagine Miss Rogers' plight when three times she stands at the altar, only to have an unexplainable indecision seize her and prevent the nuptials. But imagine her surprise when one day a romantic Indian of her dreams suddenly materializes. As the scriptwriters have it, with the aid of some trick photography, this Indian is a projection of a subconscious wish of bemused Miss Rogers. But he proves real enough to break up her impending fourth marriage, and throw a few jolly scares into the lives of others.

As the plot skips along, Miss Rogers' subconscious drive in the Indian's direction is psychoanalytically explained as the extension of a childhood love for a boy in an Indian suit. Then presto, and the ethereal Indian's flesh-and-blood counterpart, in the form of a fireman, steps into the picture, and the dream man vanishes. A few final obstacles removed, and Miss Rogers is really ready to say yes at the altar.

In supporting roles, amusing performances are contributed by Percy Waram, Spring Byington and Ron Randell. The screenplay of Norman Panama and Melvin Frank often achieves the hilarity it constantly strains for. A Don Hartman production, it was directed by the latter and by Rudolph Mate. Norman Deming assisted the producer, with the story by Hartman and Allen Boretz.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Exile"

(Fairbanks Co., Inc.—Universal-International)

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR., wrote as well as produced this romantic costume piece in which he stars in the title role. It is a dashing affair for the most part, but only begins to attain maximum excitement and interest somewhere beyond the half-way point when it becomes evident that sooner or later the exiled English king, Charles Stuart, will have to trust to his physical prowess and swordsmanship if he is to escape the band of vengeful Cromwell men who had traced him to the little countryside inn in Holland where he had taken refuge. Fairbanks is every bit convincing as the wandering, devil-may-care Charles, and Paule Croset is sweetly so in the role of the pretty Dutch inn-keeper who, unaware of his real identity, gives him refuge and a job as a farmhand, and who shares with him a brief but tender romance before his country chooses to return him to the throne.

For marquee purposes the cast includes also Maria Montez—but her role as the French countess who visits Charles at the inn to bring him financial aid from France's King Louis is decidedly brief, though satsifactorily performed. In strong support is Henry Daniell, the Cromwell leader who toward the end engages in a gripping sword fight with Fairbanks in the recesses of an old Dutch windmill, and loses, of course. The mill offers Fairbanks plenty of opportunity to demonstrate that he has the same propensity for throwing himself around as had his late father. Others in support are Nigel Bruce, Robert Coote, Otto Waldis, Eldon Gorst and Milton A. Owen, to mention a few. Max Opuls' direction is workmanlike. Youngsters from six to 60 should give this one a good play.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. For November release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

RCA Service Holds Detroit Meeting

CAMDEN, Oct. 19.—A two-day meeting between executives of RCA Service Co. and Forbes Theatre Supply of Detroit, was held here at the Variety Club. Adolph Goodman, manager of district operations for the RCA Service, represented the home office at the meeting, which included a discussion of service policies and new equipment.

Others of RCA Service at the meeting were T. G. Whitney, Cleveland district manager; H. E. Frisbie, Cleveland supervisor, and field engineers J. A. Burnett, T. M. Campbell, R. Fullerton and R. Hardy.

Brener to Realty Unit

Stephen W. Brener, formerly director of advertising-publicity of Walter Reade Theatres, has joined the realty firm of Daniel A. Brener and Co., here.

Form New Firm

Incorporation of Foremost Film Corp., foreign film importing company, with headquarters here, was announced by David Kay, who is president. B. L. Garner, French theatre operator, is vice-president; Irwin I. Lubowe is treasurer, and Noel Meadow, screen publicist, is secretary. Meadow and Garner are associated with A. D. Aubry in the operation of Vog Film Co., which will distribute for Foremost in North and South America.

Morris on 'T-Men' Tour

Claud Morris, who has just been named special home office representative for Eagle Lion to handle exploitation on "T-Men," left here yesterday for Chicago on the first stop of a nationwide tour of all E-L exchanges to confer with district and branch managers and to meet exhibitors, editors, radio commentators and merchants on campaigns.

Coming Events

Oct. 20-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 62nd semi-annual convention, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.
Oct. 21—New Jersey Allied Membership meeting, Newark Athletic Club, Newark.
Oct. 22-23—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners convention, Louisville.
Oct. 23—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon-meeting, Town Hall Club, New York.
Nov. 6-8—West Virginia Managers Association convention, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston.
Nov. 7-8—Theatre Owners of America board meet, Stevens Hotel, Chicago.
Nov. 18-20 — Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Hotel Antlers, Indianapolis.
Nov. 19—Annual dinner of the Motion Picture Pioneers, Hotel Plaza, New York.
Nov. 21-24—Allied Theatre Owners of Gulf States convention, Jung Hotel, New Orleans.
Nov. 24-25 — Associated Theatre Owners of Texas annual convention, Dallas.
Nov. 24-25—Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Pennsylvania annual convention, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.
Nov. 29-Dec. 3—National Allied board of directors meeting, National Allied convention, and annual convention of Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Milwaukee.

NYC Starts Shows Under MPA Plan

Following conferences with representatives of the Motion Picture Association's "Children's Film Library" and New York City educators, City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding launched on Saturday, in cooperation with Century Circuit, the "Sat-R-Day Camps" youngsters' film program in some of the circuit's theatres in Brooklyn and Queens. Opening day's receipts, Fielding said, were donated to the Police Athletic League.

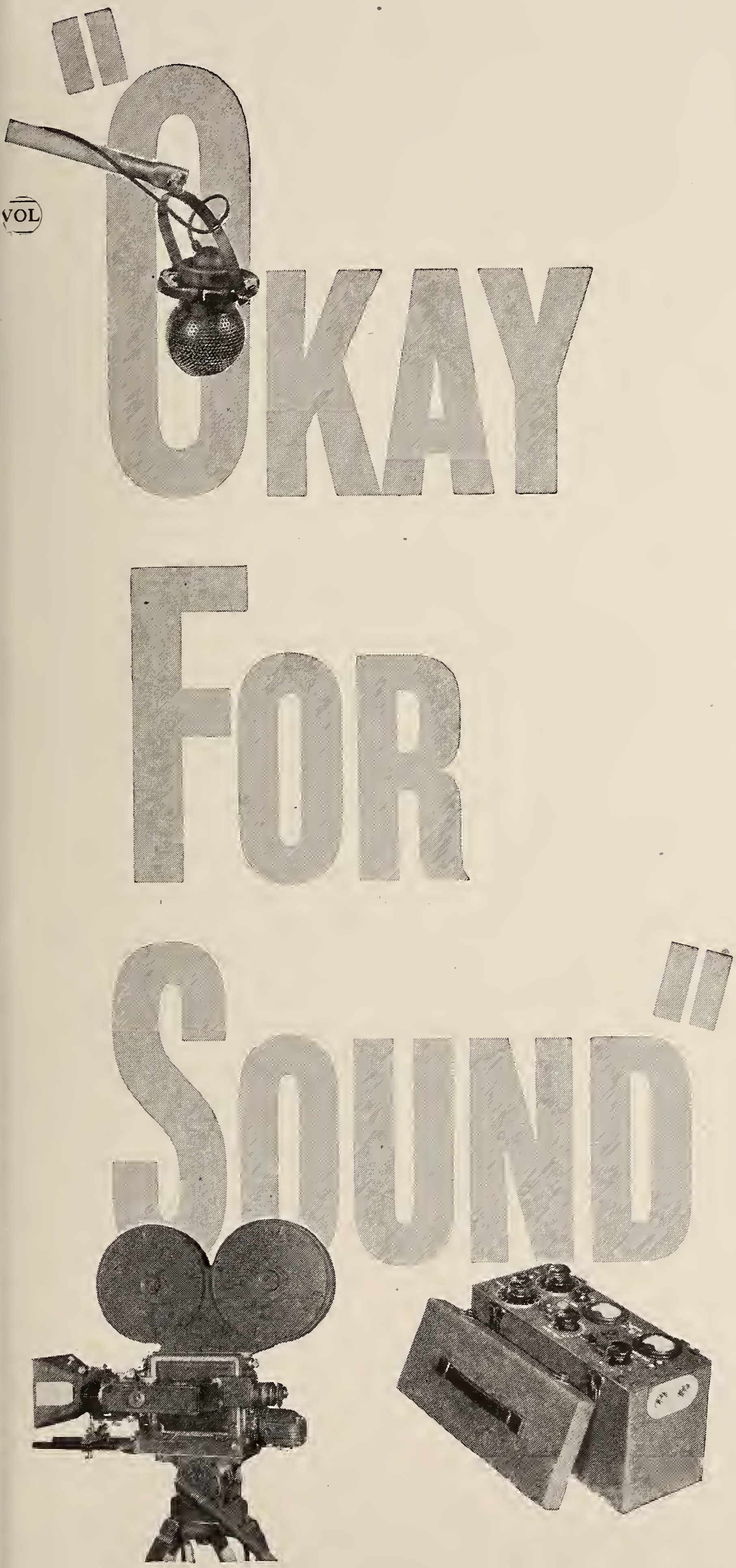
"The Department of Licenses has been seriously concerned with the development of a constructive and wholesome type of entertainment particularly for young children," he said, adding that the program initiated by Century "displays the necessary vision and imagination to cope with the challenge of the basic entertainment needs of children."

Meanwhile, Fielding has set Wednesday for a meeting with the United Parents Association to further explore the field of children's film entertainment. He said he hopes other theatres throughout the city will adopt Saturday children's shows.

Green Leaves MGM

CHICAGO, Oct. 19. — William H. Green, M-G-M Central division exploiteer for the past five years, has resigned to go to Hawaii to stage and publicize the Hawaiian Territorial Exposition. Retained by the Hawaiian Government Employees Association, Green left two weeks ago.

VOL



calls for RCA Film Recording in making Warner-Pathe Newsreels

Now that Pathe News is part of the Warner Bros. family, all the portable and studio RCA sound film recording equipment formerly used by Pathe News will continue to record high quality sound-on-film for Warner-Pathe Newsreels.

To expand the Warner Bros. newsreel operation, additional newsreel cameras have already been equipped with new RCA single film recording systems.

Just as Warner Bros. for many years have standardized on RCA film recording equipment in Hollywood and abroad, leading newsreels, feature producers and industrials can benefit from the flexibility and high quality of RCA lightweight, single-film recording equipment and RCA studio recording equipment.

SOUND RCA SYSTEM

AFL Fails

(Continued from page 1)

subcommittee, in Hollywood tomorrow, where the next "peace" attempt will be made.

William Hutcheson, head of the Carpenters union, and Richard Walsh, IATSE president, leading figures in the Hollywood jurisdictional squabble, will attend the Kearns meeting tomorrow. Hutcheson has absented himself from several previous "settlement" conferences.

Carpenters' delegates here expressed resentment over the way they charged Hutcheson and Walsh had side-stepped the issue by agreeing to suspend action and avoiding the dispute being brought up on the floor of the convention where conclusive action could have been taken. Others agreed, however, that the jurisdictional "dirty linen" should not have been "washed" in public,. as it would have been had it been brought to the convention.

Hutcheson, who had volubly threatened to withdraw from the AFL if the dispute was not settled, did not make good his threat. Both Hutcheson and Walsh stated late last week they believed an agreement was possible before Monday, which would have indicated the AFL was capable of settling the dispute itself.

Coast Unionists Pessimistic On Settlement Prospects

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 19.—Following their return from the American Federation of Labor convention in San Francisco, studio union leaders were inclined to view with pessimism prospects for the strike settlement meeting to be held here tomorrow morning with Congressman Carroll D. Kearns. Observers indicate that both William Hutcheson, Carpenters Union president, and Richard F. Walsh, IATSE chief, will stick to their previously stated positions on settlement.

At the same time, it was learned that the 'IA' will resist any compromise suggestion which would place it in violation of the Taft-Hartley Law. On the other hand, union spokesmen minimized the reported threat by Kearns to invoke injunctive proceedings unless a settlement is charted.

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Reviews

"The Invisible Wall"

(Sol M. Wurtzel—20th Century-Fox)

EUGENE FORDE'S directorial verve and acceptable performances by a cast of little-known players have sparkplugged an incredible yarn about gamblers, murder and romance sufficiently to make exciting melodrama. This latest from producer Sol. M. Wurtzel should enjoy satisfactory commercial success especially in neighborhood theatres, and its title should make intriguing marquee reading.

Arnold Belgard's screenplay, based on a story by Howard J. Green and Paul Frank, places Don Castle in the role of a war veteran who returns to his former job as an emissary for a big-time gambler, and who recklessly gambles away, on his first assignment, $20,000 which he had been instructed to deliver to a bet winner. In self-defense he kills a "con" man who had swindled him out of part of the money, meets the victim's estranged wife, marries her, and becomes the blackmail victim of the murdered man's former associate. The story is told in flash-back by Castle after he had been captured by the police in the same room with the body of the murdered blackmailer. Thinking his wife committed this murder he attempts to lead the police into the belief that he did it. However, at the end of his recitation, his wife (Virginia Christine) arrives at the police station and herself confesses to the murder. But the surprise twist is that the police had actually shot the man in a running gun fight and he had died of wounds after escaping to his apartment. Richard Gaines, Arthur Space, Edward Keane, Jeff Chandler and others complete the cast. Benjamin Kline's photography is noteworthy, and the sets are good.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. For October release.

C. L. F.

"Bowery Buckaroos"

(Monogram)

THE comedy pyrotechnics of Monogram's Bowery Boys—Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell and Billy Benedict—are transferred from Manhattan's East Side to the wild and woolly West. The transfer is accomplished by way of a dream of the addle-minded Huntz, but the audience is not apprised of that fact until the fadeout, making for a final chuckle to top off the many laughs which the picture produces en route. "Bowery Buckaroos" is loaded with the same slapstick cliches that marked its predecessors, and that, apparently, was just the way the New York Theatre audience wanted it.

Jan Grippo's production has ringleader Gorcey (who continues with his characteristic murdering of the King's English) and the others out West to prove that a notorious saloon gambler was the real culprit in a murder with which their New York soda-fountain-owner friend was charged many years ago. They find themselves in a number of ridiculously farcial situations, befor they make the gambler (Jack Norman) confess by suspending him by a rope over a wild bull's pen—and then Huntz wakes up back in the soda fountain where he had been reading a Wild West story. Others in the cast are David Gorcey, Julie Briggs, Bernard Gorcey, Minerva Urecal, Russell Simpson, and Indian Chief Yowlachi. William Beaudine directed, from a screenplay by Tim Ryan and Edmond Seward.

Running time 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 22.

C. L. F.

Legion Classifies 11 Additional Pictures

Five of 11 films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been placed in Class A-I, including "Buckaroo from Powder River," Columbia; "Green Dolphin Street," M-G-M; "The Marauders," United Artists; "Song of My Heart," Monogram, and "Spirit of West Point," Film Classics.

All others were placed in Class A-II, including "The Hunted" and "Joe Palooka in the Knockout," both Monogram; "This Time for Keeps," M-G-M; "Unconquered" and "Where There's Life," both Paramount, and "The Unsuspected," Warners.

Hamilton Refinances

OTTAWA, Oct. 19. — New issue of $320,000 Theatre Properties, Ltd., two three-fourths per cent first mortgage serial bonds maturing in 1949 and 1956 has been sold privately. Proceeds are to provide part of the funds for the redemption of outstanding five per cent mortgage bonds due in 1959 which have been called for redemption on Jan. 2, 1948 at $100 and accrued interest. Balance of the funds required will be supplied from general funds of the company.

Victor Animatograph Promotes Burrows

DAVENPORT, Ia., Oct. 19.—Lincoln V. Burrows, general sales manager of Victor Animatograph, has been named a vice-president. Burrows joined Victor in 1946, as director of distribution. From 1935 until 1942 he was with the Eastman Kodak Co.

New Television Firm

Ethyl Foster, former public relations and radio program director, will represent Marlowe Television Associates in Philadelphia, Harvey Marlowe, president, announces. Marlowe Associates is a new video production and service firm and the appointment of Miss Foster represents the first branch office to be set up by the company.

New Cartoon Company

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 19.—Jory Tele-Color Cartoons, Inc., has been incorporated to produce and deal in animated cartoons and other types of motion pictures. Incorporators are: Tom Seidel, Celia R. Alin and Edward Leven, all of New York. L. Arnold Weissberger was incorporating attorney.

Hollywood

By WILLIAM J. McGRATH

Hollywood, Oct. 19

WARNERS announce that the first pictures Danny Kaye will star in for that studio, under his new contract, may be a remake of "The Man from Blankley's", a comedy hit when John Barrymore appeared in it in 1930. No matter what story is finally chosen, Jerry Wald will produce, with Kaye's wife, Sylvia Fine, as associate producer. . . . In recognition of giving the proceeds of the Mexican premiere of "The Best Years of Our Lives" to charity in that country, the Mexican government has presented Samuel Goldwyn with a special medal and scroll. Acclaiming the picture as an "outstanding depiction of democracy at work", it marks the 30th award the film has received, starting with an almost clean sweep of the Academy Awards for 1946.

•

Starting with the current "Last of the Redmen", adapted from James Fenimore Cooper's "The Last of the Mohicans", Columbia's release schedule will present screen adaptations of many noted authors. Among them will be Alexander Dumas, poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Robert Louis Stevenson and Mark Twain. . . .

•

With the acquisition of story rights to the Mexican-produced film, "La Otra", Michael Curtiz Productions now has a backlog of stories awaiting production. Among them are the musical, "Forever and Always", "The 49'ers", "Shadow of Fear", James M. Cain's "Serenade" and "Winter Kill". . . . October marks the passage of one year since Universal and International joined production forces. The U-I company starts its second year with 12 pictures ready for autumn and winter release, and 18 ready or being prepared for production.

•

Republic continues a steady pace of buying new story properties. Among the studio's latest acquisitions are an unpublished novel, "Ringside", a story of the prize ring; "Heart of Virginia", a racing yarn; an original Western, "Cimarron Trails", and an original screen story, "Thunder in the Forest". . . . Arthur Lake, the Dagwood of Columbia's "Blondie" series, is to try his hand as an independent producer. First production of Lake's newly-formed company will be "16 Fathoms Deep", for Monogram release. Irving Allen, vice-president of the company, will direct. Lake will also head the cast of the film.

•

Upon completion of "Caged Fury," Pine-Thomas film for Paramount release, producer-director William Berke marked his 25th year in the industry. "Caged Fury" was the 100th picture on which he served as either producer or director. . . . After nine years with Warners, Owen Crump has resigned as producer at that studio. His last production chore was on the Errol Flynn-Ann Sheridan "Silver River."

•

Manny Gould has been appointed supervisor of "Silver River" all-animation production at the Jerry Fairbanks studio. . . . The first production assignment for William Pereira, under his recently signed RKO Radio contract, will be "Bed of Roses."

TOA May Act on UK Tax, Communism

Feeling that U. S. exhibition has a definite stake in the outcome of widely-flung charges of Un-Americanism in Hollywood, as well as dealings with the British on their import tax, chances appear to indicate that the directorate of the Theatre Owners of America will give lively attention to both subjects at its first meeting in Chicago on Nov. 7.

VOL

As expressed here last week by Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, an attack on Hollywood on a national basis has the effect of being an attack on the theatre owner on a community basis because the local house is the film capital of the community.

Coyne said it would be difficult to predict what specific method of approaching the un-American matter would be recommended by the board, or whether representation would be asked at the hearings to open today in Washington before the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

However, he added, he has definitely in mind an exhibitor information program under which TOA members, when locally held answerable to charges of Communism in Hollywood, would be equipped with all details concerning current pictures under attack.

As for the British *ad valorem* duty, Coyne said this, too, represents an entire industry matter, and worthy of consideration, he held, is the idea of exhibition's joining with production and distribution in coping with it.

UK Tax Issue

(*Continued from page 1*)

although such a mission was considered a short time ago.

Presidents of member companies of the Motion Picture Association and Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, are to convene here tomorrow in what is described as a general meeting, rather than an MPA board session. While knowledge of the specific agenda was disclaimed by executives here, it is generally admitted that the British matter will be taken up.

Trade observers are inclined to believe that W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, president, who were scheduled to arrive here yesterday from London by plane, will attend tomorrow's MPA meeting. They are expected to give the meeting a detailed picture of Britain's economic emergency and perhaps to indicate the area within which a compromise of the British film tax might be found.

Detailed proposals for an alternative to the tax are expected to be explored by the two CEA leaders in later meetings with Johnston in Washington. Fuller and Davis plan to leave here for London on Nov. 3.

Johnston on Forum

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, will speak here on the New York *Herald Tribune* "Forum-of-the-Air" tomorrow night on the topic, "How Can We Keep Our Economy Strong and Free."

Name TOA Group

(*Continued from page 1*)

Gamble, TOA president, intends to compile data concerning past experience in exhibiting tilted-scale pictures and will seek conferences with company presidents on the matter.

Gamble emphasized that the committee had no predetermined conclusions and stated that at this time it would be "speculation" to anticipate the findings on this subject. Gamble pointed out that at the recent TOA convention, the convention committee on this matter had discussed the advantages and disadvantages of this policy, and that the current committee action would be a further pursuit of the Washington study.

"TOA," said Gamble, "will approach no industry problems on the basis that there is but one side to a question. We hope that any matter resolved will be on a basis of equity for all industry branches affected."

Fabian declined to comment beyond stating that the work was in a preliminary state and that he hoped that some preliminary findings would be made available for presentation to the TOA officers and directors at their meeting in Chicago on Nov. 7 and 8.

Williams on TOA Board for SCTOA

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—Southern California Theatre Owners Association has appointed Paul Williams, its general counsel, to represent it on the board of the Theatre Owners of America.

'Amber' for Fabian, High Price and All

ALBANY, Oct. 19.—Although Si Fabian and Sam Rosen, operators of Fabian Theatres, both are on record as opposed to increased admission-priced product, and have banned "Best Years of Our Lives" from the circuit's Class A houses for that reason, roadshow-priced "Forever Amber" has been booked to play Fabian's Palace here, and its Proctor's Theatre, Troy. Moreover, Si Fabian is chairman of the Theatre Owners of America committee which plans to call attention to the number of tilted-priced pictures forthcoming at a meeting with film company presidents.

Efforts to reach Sam Rosen and Si Fabian here for comment on bookings of "Forever Amber" at advanced prices failed at the weekend.

Hoynes Operating 2 Southern Exchanges

ATLANTA, Oct. 19.—Taylor Hoynes, formerly with Stevens Pictures, here, is now operating his own exchanges in Atlanta and Montgomery, Ala. The company's name is Colonial Films.

Issue Data on Shutters

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19. — Data on German development of new types of shutters in cameras are contained in a report now on sale by the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce.

Seattle Bill Would Restrict Drive-Ins

SEATTLE, Oct. 19.—An ordinance which would ban drive-in theatres in residence or business districts was introduced last week in the City Council by Councilman Frank Laube. The action came on the eve of a public hearing on a petition for the rezoning of a 30-acre tract in South Seattle for the development of a community business center. Charging that a drive-in theatre may be a feature of the project, owners of neighboring property are protesting and are deluging the City Council with petitions.

Dividends Up 10%

(*Continued from page 1*)

714,000, compared with $7,917,000 for September, 1946. Commerce officials attributed the rise to higher dividends paid by Paramount and Loew's.

The Department reports a slight drop in third quarter payments this year, but not in those of film companies. For the third quarter, $13,776,000 was paid out by the industry, while for the third quarter of 1946 the amount was $14,224,000. Department officials stated that the drop was due to the fact that the Stanley Co., Philadelphia, which paid a large dividend in August, 1946, paid none this year.

Academy Approves 17

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 19.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has approved 17 recommendations for membership, the total of which is now 1,825.

a WHALE of an Idea

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House Group Studies Cuts In U.S. Taxes

Non-Committal, However On Admission Taxes

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20. — Members of the 10-man advisory committee to the House Ways and Means Committee, to meet here tomorrow and Wednesday, report here that they are studying excise tax reforms, and will recommend some reductions. However, they are non-committal on whether they will suggest cuts in the 20 per cent theatre admission tax.

The group's report will carry considerable weight, it is said, when the House committee drafts its tax reform program. The advisory committee, which is headed by former Under Secretary of the Treasury Roswell Magill, and includes J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal-International board chairman, will present its recommendations to the House committee when the latter resumes tax hearings next month.

Coast Union Heads Meet Again Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—With another session slated for tomorrow morning, heads of American Federation of Labor unions involved in the studio jurisdictional dispute ended their first day's "peace" discussions with Representative Carroll D. Kearns

(*Continued on page* 4)

Warner Bros. Starts 21-Day Clearance

Cleveland, Oct. 20.—Warner Brothers will follow the 21-day availability policy for deluxe subsequent-run houses, recently announced by Andy W. Smith, Jr. 20th Century-Fox general sales manager. Jerry Wechsler, Warner manager here, states that "The Unsuspected," currently playing Warners' Hippodrome, is the first Warner picture to be released under the policy and will be shown at the Vogue, Uptown and Variety theatres day-and-date with Keith's East 105th St.

3 More on TOA Board

Three additional board members of the Theatre Owners of America, representing as many affiliated state units, were identified here yesterday by the TOA.

E. D. Martin has been appointed by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners and Operators of Georgia, to serve on an interim basis until the group meets and elects a permanent representative.

R. R. Livingston, president of the Nebraska Theatres Association, has been elected by that organization. And now on the TOA board for the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma is Harry Lowenstein.

Carolina Group Formally Votes TOA Affiliation

CHARLOTTE, Oct. 20.—Theatre owners of North and South Carolina met

(*Continued on page* 4)

Officers Elected as SMPE Meet Starts

James Frank, Jr., of National Theatre Supply was elected financial vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, it was announced here yesterday by G. T. Lorance, society secretary, at a business session preceding the opening of the 62nd semi-annual convention at the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Also elected was Ralph B. Austrian, of Foote Cone and Belding, treasurer. John A. Maurer was reelected engineering vice-president. Elected to the board of gover-

(*Continued on page* 4)

NOT A 'WITCH-HUNT', THOMAS STRESSES

First Witnesses at Capital Film Probe

Jack L. Warner

Louis B. Mayer

Communism Probe Opens With Warner, Mayer Among First Testifying

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—Hearings on alleged Communist infiltration into Hollywood, which opened today before the House Un-American Activities Committee, are not to be construed as an attack on the majority of the persons associated with the industry, committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas announced at the opening hearing.

Today's star witnesses, Jack L. Warner, Warner Brothers vice-president in charge of production, and Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production head, asserted that their companies desire to help root subversive elements out of the industry.

Motion Picture Association co-ordinator-counsel Paul V. McNutt stated at the hearing's close that he was satisfied with the first day's progress, and thought the committee behaved fairly. Nevertheless, in a statement late last night, McNutt cautioned the committee not to judge pictures on second and third-hand judgment, and invited them to see the films themselves.

Writer Ayn Rand, blistering critic today of "Song of Russia," will be a carryover witness tomorrow. Others will be Adolph Menjou and Jack Moffitt.

"If making 'Mission to Moscow' in 1942 was a subversive activity," Warner declared, "then the American Liberty ships which carried food and guns to Russian Allies, and the American naval vessels which convoyed them were likewise engaged in subversive activities."

The Warner production, based on former U. S. Ambassador Joseph E.

(*Continued on page* 3)

Ask Another Delay In New York Appeal

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—Both sides in the industry anti-trust decree appeal have asked the U. S. Supreme Court to put over until January arguments in the case, a court official said here today.

The case was originally supposed to come up in mid- or late December, but presumably both the Government and industry counsel felt that their cases would benefit from a little more time for preparation.

Meanwhile, the way was cleared to-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 20

THE caucus room of the old House Building is one of the largest in Washington. This is where the House Un-American Activities Committee today opened its investigation of alleged Communism in Hollywood. The Committee made an adroit choice, for its show drew an overflow attendance. The public was there, prepared for sensations. The newspaper corps, domestic and foreign, to the tune of 150, was present. All the newsreels were on deck and, so, too were the networks.

•

What they heard was interesting, but hardly new. In one form or another, the charges aimed squarely at Hollywood by a committee which had quite apparently already made up its mind have been rumored or reported long since the curtain rolled up on this show. It was expected the writers would get the brunt of this display and today's opening tended to confirm the impression. Performers will not escape before these hearings, which will run Monday through Friday of each week for probably three weeks. Producers and the heads of studios appear headed for an easier time of it, although there is no indication they will be permitted a complete escape.

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J. Parnell Thomas, Committee chairman, in fact gave a generous majority in Hollywood an immediate clean bill of health and established

(*Continued on page* 3)

Organizing Kansas, Missouri Owners

Wichita, Kan., Oct. 20.—O. F. Sullivan, head of a circuit here, is organizing a Kansas-Missouri exhibitor organization "made up entirely of independent exhibitors," who, he says, "are faced with ever-increasing affiliated circuit power," and "increasing demands from film companies."

Personal Mention

JOSEPH BERNHARD, film classics president, flew to Hollywood yesterday from New York for sales talks.

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Edward T. Cheyfitz of the Motion Picture Association will be in Columbus, O., from Washington Saturday to be honor guest at the annual meeting of the Ohioana Library Association.

•

Norman Elson, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, left here last night for Philadelphia, Washington and Boston. He is due back on Thursday.

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Jules Levey, United Artists producer, will leave here for Hollywood at the weekend.

•

Jake Wilk, Warner Eastern production manager, has returned to New York from Boston.

•

Harry Sherman, Enterprise producer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

Jack Goldberg, Herald Pictures president, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

•

Walter Mirisch, Monogram producer, has returned to the studio from Kansas City.

•

Arthur Jeffrey, Eagle Lion exploitation manager, has returned to New York from New Orleans.

Hiked Prices Topic of Para. Meet Here

Increased admission prices and problems concerning exchange operation were among subjects discussed here yesterday at a meeting of Paramount division managers, conducted by Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales. In attendance were Hugh Owen, Earl Sweigert, J. J. Donohue and George Smith. Also attending were Ted O'Shea and Oscar Morgan, representing Paramount News and short subjects.

Other topics discussed were sales policies, the results of the first bookings of "Unconquered." The meeting will continue through today.

Two Courts Postpone Action in 'U' Suits

Federal Court Judge Vincent L. Leibel yesterday reserved decision on a three-point motion filed by Universal and its directors for dismissal of suits brought by minority stockholders Bertha T. Aine and Stephen Truncale, who charge improper stock option deals. The court also reserved decision on the petition of stockholder William Freiday to intervene in the Truncale litigation.

The New York Supreme Court yesterday adjourned until Nov. 20 the handling of similar suits filed there also by the two stockholders.

M-G-M Seen Hit by Record-Making Ban

Successful operation of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer record division is seen threatened by the edict of James C. Petrillo to the effect that all members of his American Fedaration of Musicians will cease making platters and transcriptions on Dec. 31.

Unlike its competitors in the field, particularly Decca, Columbia and RCA Victor, the M-G-M firm, which is in existence only about a year, will not have too substantial a record backlog with which to operate beyond the date the ban is to be put into effect, it is understood.

Frank Walker, general manager of the division, yesterday authorized only a brief statement declaring that Petrillo's action is being studied.

Smith, Others at AMPA Meet Thurs.

Film industry figures and others in related fields are to be dais guests at the luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Town Hall Club here on Thursday. They include: Andrew W. Smith, Jr., Emerson Foote, John Wingerter, Ivor Kenway, Vincent Trotta, Herbert Stephen, Muriel Babcock, Albert Sindlinger, Charles Seibert, Reginald Clough, Blanche Livingston, Joseph Seiferth, Hiram Rickett; Ray Gallagher.

Phil Williams, AMPA vice-president, will preside. Speakers will be Barney Finn, Alfred Seaman and George Trimble.

Several Changes at Donahue and Coe

Paul Barbuto, art director with the Donahue and Coe advertising agency here, for eight years, has been named executive assistant to William H. Schneider, vice-president. In a further art department expansion program, Frank V. Droesch, associated with the agency as a visualizer for the past 13 years, has been named art department manager. Additional appointments include Robert Holmes as assistant to Droesch, and Lloyd McKean as assistant to Barbuto. Also, Ben Rogers, recently art director for Buchanan and Co., has joined the Donahue and Coe staff as an associate art director.

O'Rourke Is Promoted

Minneapolis, Oct. 20. — Morrie Steinman, manager of the Minneapolis Allied Artists-Monogram branch, has promoted John O'Rourke from office manager and head booker to a member of the sales staff and has assigned him to handle southern Minnesota. O'Rourke's son, Bob, has taken over the booking post.

Autry To Stage Show

Gene Autry, Columbia cowboy star, the Cass County Boys and the Melody Ranch Boys, will stage a special show for students at Lincoln Hall, Lincolndale, N. Y., today. Honor guest will be Francis Cardinal Spellman.

UK Treasury, Fuller In Blocking Talks

London, Oct. 20.—On the eve of his scheduled departure for New York and Washington for discussions on the British *ad valorem* tax crisis with Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston and other American industry leaders, W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, was called to consult with British Treasury ministers on a new threat to American industry operations here: possible blocking of remittances on U. S. films now showing here but not subject to the new tax.

The plane on which Fuller and B. T. Davis, CEA president, were due in New York today, was delayed.

House of Commons members, meanwhile, are expected to demand a full dress debate on the question of Britain's rapidly dwindling dollar reserve and the possible resorting to sterling reserves to meet film rentals. If the dissipating dollar reserve is not replenished soon by the U. S., Britain is expected to find itself obliged to utilize its sterling currency reserve to pay for essential imports, and, in that event, Parliamentary demands that remittances be blocked on tax-free U. S. films would be inevitable.

Influential American interests here have already protested the threatened blocking on the ground that it would be an infringement of the Anglo-American loan agreement, but it is authoritatively understood that ministers and officials are satisfied that the government has sufficient powers to enforce a remittances block.

Film Group Forms Republican Unit

Hollywood, Oct. 20.—The Hollywood Republican Committee has been organized here by a group of film personalities for "the 1948 elections." President is George Murphy, former president of the Screen Actors Guild.

Other officers include: Robert Montgomery, first vice-president; Walt Disney, second vice-president, and Ida R. Koverman, Leo McCary, Adolph Menjou, Ginger Rogers, Morrie Ryskind and Lewis Allen Weiss, all directors.

Warner Executives Return Here Today

Following a week of conferences at the Burbank studio, Warner executives Albert Warner, Samuel Schneider, Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock and Harry M. Kalmine are due back in New York tomorrow.

In addition to discussing 1948 plans with Harry M. Warner, Jack L. Warner, Steve Trilling, and Alex Evelove, the home office contingent previewed several new films.

Mrs. Selma Mandel

Chicago, Oct. 20.—Mrs. Selma Mandel, wife of local Monogram franchise holder Irving W. Mandel, died at home Friday after an extended illness. Funeral services will be held here tomorrow with interment in Chicago.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
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The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
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ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
CHARLIE CHAPLIN
'MONSIEUR VERDOUX'
(The Modern Bluebeard)
IN PERSON
JOAN ROBERTS
PAUL HAAKON
EXTRA!
BUCK & BUBBLES
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
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UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
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JAMES STEWART • JANE WYMAN
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"MAGIC TOWN"
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PARAMOUNT'S
"VARIETY GIRL"
starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Will do your heart good."—Hale, News
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St
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RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of 'B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

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Capital Probe

(*Continued from page* 1)

Davies' book of the same title, was made "only to help a desperate war effort and not for posterity," said Warner, the first witness to face the five Thomas committee members who were present for the opening hearing into alleged Communist activities in Hollywood. He described as a "fantasy" the charge that "White House pressure" had been exerted toward the picture's making.

"Ideological termites," Warner said, "have burrowed into many American industries, organizations and societies. Wherever they may be, I say let us dig them out and get rid of them. My brothers and I will be happy to subscribe generously to a pest-removal fund. We are willing to establish such a fund to ship to Russia the people who don't like our American system of government and prefer the communistic system to ours.

Will Help 'Weeding'

"If there are Communists in our industry, or any other industry, organization or society, who seek to undermine our free institutions," Warner continued, "let's find out about it and know who they are. Let the record be spread clear, for all to read and judge. The public is entitled to know the facts. And the motion picture industry is entitled to have the public know the facts."

When he had completed reading his statement before the committee, Warner, under questioning by chief committee investigator Robert Stripling, said that he knew of no Communists in Hollywood and then modified his earlier testimony given in California last May. He admitted that there are "people with un-American leanings in the writing division" of the industry. McNutt, who accompanied Warner, was denied permission to cross-question witnesses. "You are no different from all the other attorneys who have appeared before this committee," Thomas told McNutt in refusing the latter's request to cross-question.

Stripling, reading from Warner's testimony of last May, listed 15 writers whom Warner had dropped after the expiration of their contracts, because he suspected them of "un-American" tendencies. They were: Alvah Bessie, Gordon Kahn, Guy Endore, Howard Koch, Ring Lardner, Jr., John Howard Lawson, Albert Maltz, Robert Rosson, Irwin Shaw, Dalton Trumbo, John Wexley, Emmett Lavery, Julius and Philip Epstein, Sheridan Gibney and Clifford Odets.

In replying to Stripling, Warner said: "There are several men whom I don't recollect as having written any subversive propaganda." Those, he said, were Guy Endore, Sheridan Gibney, and Julius and Philip Epstein.

At this point Thomas broke in to commend Warner. "You have been doing exactly the same thing in your business that we have been doing in ours," the chairman said. "You have detected these slanted lines and have tried to cut them out."

In opening, Thomas pointed out that the committee was "well aware" of the magnitude of the subject which they are investigating. "The motion picture industry represents what is probably the largest single vehicle of entertainment for the American public," he declared in his opening statement, and "with such vast influence over the lives of American citizens as the motion picture industry exerts, it is not unnatural . . . that subversive and undemocratic forces should attempt to use this medium for un-American purposes."

Cites Record of Company

In his initial statement, Warner said that "interest in the preservation of the American way of life is no new thing with our company. Ever since we began making motion pictures we have fostered American ideals" and sought to protect them.

Later, Rep. Richard M. Nixon of California cited the number of anti-Fascist films made by Warners and asked Warner if his company planned to make any anti-Communist films. Warner replied that at present they were working on one, "Up Until Now."

He told Nixon that his company had made 500 short subjects showing the "positive American way of life."

In answer to a question by Rep. John S. Wood of Georgia, Warner stated emphatically that he knew of no producer who knowingly maintained in his employ any persons who tried to inject into films ideas which sought to destroy the American way of life.

Warner strongly denied the possibility, suggested by Rep. Richard B. Vail, of Illinois, of using the Motion Picture Association as a clearing house for information about the political tendencies of industry employes. "I don't think it would be legal to have an association banded together for this purpose," he stated. "I would not be a party to it."

Favors Outlawing 'Reds'

Asked by Thomas whether he would advocate a resolution that would outlaw the Communist party in this country, Warner replied that he was "in favor of making it an illegal organization."

At the close of the morning session, Stripling questioned Warner sharply about "Mission to Moscow," demanding if Warner Brothers had been "asked" to make the picture and if Warner thought the picture gave a fraudulent portrayal of Russian life.

Again modifying his testimony given last May, Warner stated firmly that his "brother contacted Davies after reading the book.

"As far as I'm concerned," he told Stripling, "I considered it true as written in Davies' book." He repeated that there was "no cooperation with the Government" in making the film.

Early in the hearing Thomas refused permission to Robert W. Kenny and Bartley C. Crum, attorneys for 18 writers, producers, and directors, who wished to submit a motion to "quash" the subpoenas issued by the committee on the ground that the committee is an "unconstitutional creation." Thomas told them he would permit them to talk during the second week of hearings, when members of the group will be called before the committee.

Among those present today as spectators were: Eric Johnston, MPA president; Joseph Hazen and Maurice Benjamin, MPA attorneys; Nate B. Spingold, Columbia, and Mort B. Blumenstock, advertising - publicity-director of Warners.

In addition to Kenny and Crum, the group of 18 was represented by Alvah Bessie, Herbert Biberman, Edward Dymtryk, Gordon Kahn, John Howard Lawson, Lewis Milestone, Irving Pichel, Larry Parks, Robert Rosson, Adrian Scott and Waldo Salt.

Warner concluded his opening statement as follows: "We can't fight dic-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Washington Ringside

(*Continued from page* 1)

that the investigation is to be focalized on a small minority which, he charged, seeks to remold the industry for its own political purposes. These purposes, he asserted, link to Russia and not to America. But it is an interesting commentary on the kind of committee this is to note that Thomas will not allow cross-examination although he will allow counsel to advise witnesses. The industry's defense, consequently, may depend largely on the breaks accorded it by the American press and radio.

•

While the course of these hearings may take a stern course before they terminate, those serious and lighter moments which inevitably make an appearance at any large-scale melee began to pop on the first day. Someone remarked that Universal is scared to death over "Ride the Pink Horse." Joe Hazen pointed to the red suspenders he was wearing and wondered what the outcome for him might be if the fact ever reached the committee.

On a question, Jack Warner said he had never seen a Communist. "I wouldn't know one if I saw one," he added. "But Fascists? Yes. I've seen them but not in this country."

•

Louis B. Mayer drew one of the big laughs of the day when he told about "An American Romance" and how this M-G-M film had treated with opportunity in America. Asked to repeat the title, he did and added "in Technicolor."

"Any question in your mind about John Howard Lawson "being a Communist?" chief investigator Stripling asked Sam Wood. "If there was any question about him, I haven't got a mind," Wood retorted. Declaring himself in favor of outlawing communist activities, this witness remarked later in discussing alleged sympathizers or party-liners in Hollywood, that "if you drop their rompers, you'll find the hammer and sickle on their rear ends."

•

Mayer scored a point in discussions on "Song of Russia," one of the films under fire. He maintained it was produced to help the war effort on behalf of Russia, exactly as "Mrs. Miniver" was made on behalf of the British. Mayer also stoutly maintained "Song of Russia" was primarily a musical and cited major city reviews to bolster his point. One critic felt the film had "all too little to do with Russia."

•

Ayn Rand, novelist and scenarist, analyzed the attraction as pure propaganda. Having left Russia in 1926, never to return, some wondered about the authority of her appraisal of conditions inside the Russia she admittedly has not seen for 21 years.

•

Nate Spingold let out with a cheery "hello" to this writer, designating him by nickname. Appalled by reference to anything red in the council chambers of the Un-American Activities, he forsook the premises and left for New York.

Washington Hearing Gets the Headlines

Virtually all editions of New York Metropolitan newspapers yesterday and this morning carried top banner headlines on the first of the Un-American Activities Committee's hearings in Washington on alleged Communistic influences in Hollywood.

Press services operating out of Washington flooded the wires all day yesterday with stories of the hearing which made page one in newspapers in all of the nation's key cities at least.

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SMPE Meet Opens

(*Continued from page* 1)

nors were Alan W. Cook, of Ansco; Paul J. Larsen, associate director of the Los Alamos Laboratories of the University of California; R. T. Van Niman of Motiograph; Lloyd T. Goldsmith, Warner Brothers; Gordon E. Sawyer, Samuel Goldwyn Studios.

First event on the SMPE program was a theatre engineering session at which papers were presented on "Advancement of Theatre Design," by Ben Schlanger, New York architect, and "Psychological Aspects of the Theatre" by Walter Cutter of New York University..

Dr. Cutter, in his talk, declared that theatre managers, whether on Times Square or on a village street, are the stewards of a "colossal" force which has become so interwoven with modern social life that it is indispensable.

Admitting that some pictures are poor, he said that nevertheless, in an industry maintaining production standards for so many different tastes, the wonder is not that there is a percentage of weak pictures, but that there are so many good ones.

How the drive-in theatre grew from an idea inspired by the depression, outlived what many believed would be just a fad, and has become a fast-growing institution, was outlined yesterday afternoon in a talk by S. Herbert Taylor, professional engineer of Park-In Theatres, Inc.

This evening at the RCA Exhibit Hall, members of SMPE will view developments in all branches of electronics, including television and motion pictures, at private showings.

Coast Union Heads

(*Continued from page* 1)

agreeing that no comment on progress would be made until later this week. However, Kearns pronounced himself "hopeful" that the unions engaged in the year-long dispute would settle their differences now.

The congressman, who was chairman of a House Labor subcommittee which conducted hearings here recently, said he is willing to remain here for the rest of this week, if necessary, to aid in a settlement. No producers' representatives were invited to the talks.

While Richard Walsh, IATSE president, was present, William Hutcheson, Carpenters' chieftain, was unable to attend because of illness which hospitalized him in San Francisco. He was represented by his son, Morris, also of the Carpenters union. Joseph Clark represented L. P. Lindelof, Painters' president, who was also absent.

Ask Another Delay

(*Continued from page* 1)

day for the court to act on the Jackson Park case with the filing of the theatre's brief opposing the petition for a writ of certiorari. It claimed that the litigation has been in the court for over five years and that "petitioners have had not only 'their day' but have had years in court."

"To grant this petition," it was said, "only burdens this court with a further review of factual and discretionary issues adequately, conscientiously and correctly dealt with by the lower courts."

... and great Box Office, too!

"If you're looking for chills and thrills see Eagle-Lion's 'LOVE FROM A STRANGER'!" —HEDDA HOPPER

500 Hear Attacks on 'Aims' of House Unit

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—Some 500 Washingtonians jammed the National Press Club auditorium here tonight to applaud attacks on the House Un-American Activities Committee as "unconstitutional" and "designed to set up screen censorship."

Edward Dmytryk, Larry Parks and other directors, writers and actors labeled by the committee as "Communist" or "pro-Communist," spoke at the meeting, as did their lawyers, Robert W. Kenny and Bartley C. Crum. The meeting was sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild.

Kenny declared that the committee openly demanded today that the industry make pictures which are only to the committee's liking, and that film-makers establish a "blacklist" of persons objected to by the committee. Declaring that "even the committee" did not brand whole pictures subversive, but only parts and scenes, Kenny said that "we now have a new category of Un-Americana—subtleties and innuendoes."

Dmytryk, who directed RKO Radio's "Crossfire," said that if the Thomas committee succeeds in its purpose, there would be no more films like "Crossfire," and, he added, if the industry permits this intimidation of film-maker, "we may well ask if 20th Century-Fox will ever release 'Gentleman's Agreement'," another film dealing with anti-Semitism.

Capitol Probe

(*Continued from page* 3)

tatorships by borrowing dictatorial methods. Nor can we defend freedom by curtailing liberties, but we can attack with a free press and a free screen. Subversive germs breed in dark corners. Let's get light into those corners. That, I believe, is the purpose of this hearing and I am happy to have had the opportunity to testify."

In April, 1942, when the story for "Song of Russia" came to M-G-M's attention, "it seemed a good medium of entertainment and at the same time offered an opportunity for a pat on the back for our then allies, Russia," Mayer told the committee. "We mentioned this to the Government coordinators and they agreed with us that it would be a good idea to make the picture," he said.

Ties Film to War Program

Continued Mayer: "According to research I had made, our newspapers were headlining the desperate situation of the Russians at Stalingrad at that time. Admiral Standley, American Ambassador to the Soviet Union, made a vigorous plea for all-out aid. He pleaded for assistance second only to the supplies being provided the U. S. Fleet, and emphasized that the best way to win the war was to keep the Russians killing the Germans and that the most effective way was to give them all the help they needed.

"The U. S. Army Signal Corps made 'The Battle of Stalingrad', released in 1943, with a prologue expressing high tribute from President Roosevelt, our Secretaries of State, War and Navy, and from Generals Marshall and MacArthur.

"The final script of 'Song of Russia' was little more than a pleasant musical romance—the story of a boy and girl that, except for the music of Tchaikowsky, might just as well have taken place in Switzerland or England or any other country on the earth.

"I thought Robert Taylor ideal for the leading male role in 'Song of Russia', but he did not like the story. This was not unusual, as actors and actresses many times do not care for stories suggested to them.

"At the time, Taylor mentioned his pending commission in the Navy, so I telephoned the Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, and told him of the situation. Recalling the good that had been accomplished with 'Mrs. Miniver' and other pictures released during the war period, the Secretary called back and stated that Taylor could be given time to make the film before being called to service. Accordingly, Taylor made the picture.

"Since 1942, when the picture was planned, our relationship with Russia has changed. But viewed in the light of the war emergency at the time, it is my opinion that it could not be construed as anything other than for the entertainment purpose intended and a pat on the back for our then allies, Russia."

Mayer opened his statement with the assertion that Communism is to him "so completely opposed to the principles of democratic government that I welcome the opportunity provided by this Commitee to be of any service possible to bring out the true facts concerning reported infiltration of Un-American ideology into motion pictures."

He said that "like others in the motion picture industry, I have maintained a relentless vigilance against un-American influences."

Wood Blames Laxity

Declaring efforts toward Communist infiltration undoubtedly existed in Hollywood, Sam Wood, producer-director, and founder of the Motion Picture Alliance, testified that Hollywood is now watching the situation closely. He absolved all studio heads of such activity, but blamed many for "ignorance" of what was transpiring. Now that they are aware, strong action may be expected, he continued.

Wood accused John Cromwell, Irving Pichel, Edward Dymtryk and Frank Tuttle with attempting to assume control of the Screen Directors Guild for propaganda purposes, but said the move was defeated. Motion Picture Alliance, he testified, was formed to resist the efforts of totalitarian forces, whether from left or right, seeking to control the screen.

Communist efforts to control Hollywood had been made, he added, through unions and guilds. Leading groups identified with such purpose, Wood alleged, were the Emergency Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions, and the Free World Organization in which, Wood added, Walter Wanger played a prominent part.

TOA Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

in Charlotte today and formally voted to become affiliated with the Theatre Owners of America. Action was taken after a brief session at which 75 members of the association were in attendance. Ben Strozier of Rock Hill, S. C., president of the association, presided.

Immediately after the meeting, directors of the organization met and worked out plans for the affiliation.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 79 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

British MP's Say US Film Talks Urgent

King George Cites Film Quota Bill in Commons

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 21. — House of Commons members today agreed in informal discussions among themselves that initiation of talks directed towards bringing together British and American motion picture interests on the *ad valorem* tax problem have never been more urgently needed than they are now.

This viewpoint was arrived at following the Parliamentary address of King George VI, which emphasized the gravity of the nation's monetary situa-

(*Continued on page 7*)

$1,200,000 Is Eire 6-Mo. US Film Bill

By TOM SHEEHY

DUBLIN, Oct. 21.—During the first six months of this year, Eire theatres spent $1,200,000 for American films—a figure which surprised trade circles here considerably, since it is double what was thought to have been spent.

This figure was released by Finance Minister Frank Aiken to the Dail, and the Eire industry has become highly interested in learning how the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Meeting of Company Presidents Delayed

Meeting of presidents of the major companies which was scheduled to have been held here yesterday was postponed, with no new date set, because of the inability of some of the executives to attend. Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, was in town for the day, reportedly in private conversations with a few officials on the British *ad valorem* duty. Last night he participated in a New York *Herald Tribune* forum discussion labeled, "How Can We Keep America's Economy Free and Strong."

Canadian Owners Escape Rise In Theatre Music Tax

TORONTO, Oct. 21.—Despite exhibitor expectations to the contrary, prevailing license rates for music performing rights will remain unchanged during the next calendar year. As a result of negotiations, it was said, the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada has decided not to follow the example of its U. S. counterpart, Ascap, in seeking fee increases. Operating under a government control board, the Canadian association decided not to seek official permission for higher rates.

Announcement of this was made at the annual meeting of the Motion

(*Continued on page 7*)

Variety Will Meet In Okla. Nov. 3-4

Tulsa and Claremore, Oklahoma, will hold the spotlight for the International Variety Clubs on Nov. 3-4, arrangements having been completed for a combination national officers' meeting in Tulsa and presentation of a bronze plaque at the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore.

National officers, along with chief barkers of the 33 tents, will arrive in Tulsa on Sunday, Nov. 2, where they

(*Continued on page 7*)

McNUTT LASHES AT INDUSTRY PROBERS

Says House Committee Refused to Divulge Films Called 'Suspect'

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21. — Producers always have and always will exercise the right to determine what they produce and, since they are responsible in the end for what they make, they retain the right to determine whom they employ.

This declaration of policy was set forth this afternoon at the close of the second day's probe of the House Un-American Activities Committee into alleged Communistic infiltration into Hollywood by Paul V. McNutt, representing the Motion Picture Association and the Association of Motion Picture Producers, who sharply criticized the House group's procedures.

McNutt divulged efforts to obtain from the committee a list of '"suspect" pictures without success and criticized the committee's refusal to comply in the face of Chairman J. Parnell Thomas's announcement that a list developed by Jack Moffitt, one of today's witnesses, would be considered in executive session. Executive session, of course, means "star-chamber."

"We have no chance to defend ourselves under the wide mandate which this committee has set up for itself, although actually the industry needs

(*Continued on page 6*)

15 Millions for New Canadian Theatres

Ottawa, Oct. 21.—It is estimated that over 100 new motion picture theatres have been constructed, started or ordered from Jan. 1, 1946, to Aug. 31, 1947, in Canada. Approximately 243 theatre contracts have been awarded during the same period involving additions or alterations. The value of these undertakings is about $15,500,000.

Appoint Three More To T.O.A. Board

Appointment of three new board members of the Theatre Owners of America was disclosed yesterday by the TOA office in New York.

Ben L. Strozier, of Rock Hill, S. C., and H. F. Kincey, Charlotte, N. C., both will represent the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina.

Clarence Kaimann of St. Louis has been named to the TOA board by the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 21

THE committee of investigation put itself under investigation today when Chairman Thomas repeated the purpose on display here was not to smear the industry, and immediately added "nor was it to foist censorship upon it." He offered this latter statement after asking Adolphe Menjou if he subscribed to published reports crediting the censorship intent to the committee.

"Juvenile," snapped Menjou. "Anyone who thinks so has the intelligence of a louse."

•

It was a good show Menjou put on. Describing himself as a student of Marxism, Fabian Socialism and Stalinism and their effect in the United States, he was never short on his authorities or source material.

He rattled off the names of commissars and published works supporting his viewpoint that America was closer to Communist engulfment than the man in the street realized.

Much of this, at best, bore only obliquely on the subject at hand, but the committee allowed Menjou full rein. He specifically attacked John Cromwell, Herbert Sorrell and John Howard Lawson. He specifically exempted from attack the heads of the studios.

•

Congressman McDonnell of the committee was impressed. Said he, "In addition to being a great actor, here is one of the greatest American patriots I have ever met."

Menjou was given quite a round of applause as he stepped down.

•

Yet to be established is what a Communist actually looks like. The committee asked Jack Warner on Monday if he had ever seen one. The

(*Continued on page 6*)

Final Studio 'Peace' Talk Set for Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Decision of some kind toward settlement of the studio jurisdictional strike will be announced tomorrow, following a third day's session between Representative Carroll D. Kearns of the House Labor Committee and officials of American Federation of Labor unions, the congressman disclosed today. Second

(*Continued on page 7*)

Reviewed Today

"Man About Town" is reviewed on page 4.

Personal Mention

E. V. RICHARDS, head of Saenger Theatres, Paramount affiliate, is in town from New Orleans.

●

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, is expected back at his desk here next week following a three-week illness.

●

WILLIAM E. OSBORNE, Monogram Far East and Middle East representative, is due here by plane this week from London.

●

WILLIAM HEINEMAN, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal-International, is on an extended hunting trip in Montana.

●

JACK GOLDBERG, Herald Pictures president, left here yesterday for Hollywood, and not Hollywood for New York as stated yesterday.

●

MAX FELLERMAN of the Paramount Theatre department, now in Philadelphia, is due back in New York tomorrow.

●

SAMUEL PINANSKI, executive of the Mullins and Pinanski Circuit, New England affiliate of Paramount, was in town yesterday from Boston.

●

ALFRED BLOOMINGDALE, Columbia producer, and MRS. BLOOMINGDALE are in town from the Coast.

●

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, is en route to New York from the Coast.

●

WALT DISNEY has arrived here from the Coast for a two-week stay.

●

LENA HORNE will sail for England today on the *SS Mauretania.*

Krim To Meet with Foy, Schwalberg

CHICAGO, Oct. 21.—Arthur B. Krim, president of Eagle-Lion, has arrived here from New York for product and sales meeting with Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production, and A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-present, who is here on the first stop in a nationwide tour of the 31 company exchanges to outline sales policy on 1947-48 releases.

Following the meeting here, Krim will address meetings of Midwestern district and branch managers.

Kentucky Showmen Will Meet Today

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 21.—Ted Gamble, president of Theatre Owners of America, will be a speaker at the two-day convention of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, which will get underway tomorrow at the Seelbach Hotel here.

The question of affiliation with the TOA is one of the topics on the agenda.

SRO Adds to Staff And Field Branches

Continuing the expansion program mapped out for the Selznick Releasing Organization, Milton S. Kusell, SRO vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales, will fly to Canada today to set up new sales offices in Montreal and Winnipeg. At the same time he announces several new appointments in the domestic sales field.

J. J. Oulahan, long associated with Paramount before he moved to Universal-International, was appointed Ohio-Michigan district manager with headquarters in Cleveland, his district comprising Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati. William Williams was named sales representative in Albany. He was formerly a salesman for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Personnel for the new Canadian offices will be announced by Kusell later. While in Canada, Kusell will also set a Canadian release date for David O. Selznick's "The Paradine Case."

Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard, and E. L. Scanlon, vice-president and treasurer, returned yesterday to the Selznick Studios from a three-week trip to New York during which they discussed releasing plans for future Selznick product with Neil Agnew, president of SRO, and Kusell.

A releasing schedule has been established with "Intermezzo" scheduled for November, "The Paradine Case" for December-January, "Portrait of Jennie" for April and "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" for June, and "Duel in the Sun," the current gross of which is now $15,400,000, according to SRO. Mark Hellinger's "Knock on Any Door" will be the release following "Mr. Blandings."

Select Goldwyn Film For Royal Showing

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," RKO Radio, has been selected in competition with American films for showing at the Second Annual Royal Command Performance at the Odeon Theatre, London, on Nov. 25, it was announced here yesterday by the Goldwyn office.

Proceeds are for the benefit of the British Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund.

Treasury Grants Tax Refund to Goldwyn

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Samuel Goldwyn overpaid his 1945 income tax by $383,407, the Treasury Department announced today, and the producer has been credited with that amount. Goldwyn also recently benefited from a tax court ruling in his favor in connection with his 1943 payment.

Television Luncheon

American Television Society will hold the first of a series of monthly luncheons today at the Hotel Commodore, with Paul West, president of the Association of National Advertisers, as the featured speaker.

Paramount Wins Suit On Bioff's Default

Paramount yesterday was awarded a default judgment against Willie Bioff, former personal representative of one-time IATSE president George E. Brown, in its Federal Court suit here, which charged that Bioff and Brown were paid a total of $100,000 by the company under duress and strike threats between 1936 and 1938 when a labor dispute in the company's theatre operations had developed. Federal Judge Edward A. Conger handed down the judgment against Bioff because neither the defendant nor his attorneys appeared for yesterday's trial.

Brown's counsel yesterday made a motion for dismissal of his case and Judge Conger adjourned a ruling on the motion until Nov. 21.

Arguments Continue In Goldman Case

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 21.—Judge Joseph Proskauer, attorney for Warner Brothers, and major distributor defendants in the Goldman-Erlanger suit, today asked the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here to set aside the $375,000 damage award made by the Federal Court to Goldman. Proskauer argued that the judge had made the award on the basis of speculation and guess work.

The argument was contested by William A. Gray, attorney for Goldman, who claimed the award was entirely fair. The court consisted of Judges John Biggs, Joseph McLaughlin and Albert B. Maris. After about six hours of argument the case was adjourned until Thursday.

Levy in Yale Talk On Arbitration

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 21.—In an address at Yale Law School, wider utilization of arbitration in business was recommended by Herman M. Levy, general counsel of the Theatre Owners of America and secretary of the New Haven County Bar Association, who spoke on the subject generally, with some reference to motion picture disputes settled in that fashion.

Lawyers' unfamiliarity with arbitration and its potentialities are somewhat responsible for its limited use, Levy held.

To Hear N. Y. Equity Appeals in January

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Appeal argument in the New York anti-trust case against distributors are now set to be heard in January, a postponement of about a month having been granted by the U. S. Supreme Court. It is understood James F. Byrnes made the postponement request in behalf of the distributor appellants.

Len Smith, 53

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow at Pierce Brothers Mortuary for Len Smith, 53, M-G-M cameraman, who died yesterday following a year's illness. Smith won an Academy Award for his work on "The Yearling." The widow survives.

Newsreel Parade

THE Congressional committee inquiry into Communist activity in the film industry makes a featured highlight in all of the current newsreels. Also included are the plane rescue at sea and football games of the week. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 16 — Heroic *Bibb* brings ashore 69 survivors in sea rescue. U. S. film industry denies charges of Red influence. Football highlights.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 214—Epic of sky queen has happy ending. Film industry denies Red influence as hearings open. Grid thrillers.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 17—Rescue in the Atlantic. Film industry denies Red [illegible] fluence. Football highlights of the wee[illegible]

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 84—[illegible] American Committee opens inquiry into possible Communist penetration of Hollywood. Sixty-nine persons rescued from flying boat downed in ocean. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 19—Sixty-nine saved in plane from Atlantic. Film industry opens probe. College football.

See No Theatre Tax Recommendations

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson said today that he did not expect his 10-man advisory committee on tax reform to make recommendations one way or the other on cutting admission taxes.

"That is purely a matter of rates, and not policies," Knutson said. "The Ways and Means Committee itself will decide questions like that. The advisory committee is for long-term, overall recommendations. It may make some recommendations on excise taxes generally, but I do not expect any on the theatre tax or any other specific excise tax," he said.

The advisory committee, which includes Universal Pictures' board Chairman J. Cheever Cowdin, met here today and will continue meeting tomorrow in an attempt to get its recommendations in final shape for inclusion in a report to the Ways and Means committee when the latter group reconvenes next month.

SOPEG, SPG Meet on Wage Question

A joint meeting of members of the strategy committees of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and Screen Publicists Guild will be held here tonight to draft further action on wage questions. According to SOPEG, the majors have turned down their wage demands and want the union to arbitrate separately with each company instead of on an industry-wide basis.

Times Square demonstrations are planned by SOPEG and SPG today and tomorrow at noon, to acquaint the public with the situation.

New Astral Office

MONTREAL, Oct. 21.—Astral Films, distributors for Film Classics, in Canada, has opened a new office here, under the management of Jerry Bastien.

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BROADWAY IS "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" NOW!

PRESS-TIME FLASH!

First week's business is biggest M-G-M record in entire history of Loew's Criterion Theatre, N. Y.

Congratulations

FROM M-G-M TO ALL THESE HIT MAKERS!

LANA TURNER

VAN HEFLIN

DONNA REED

RICHARD HART

FRANK MORGAN · EDMUND GWENN · DAME MAY WHITTY

REGINALD OWEN · GLADYS COOPER

Screen Play by Samson Raphaelson • Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Goudge

Directed by VICTOR SAVILLE · Produced by CAREY WILSON

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

NY 1st-Runs In Big Money

New York first-runs are enjoying a week of uniformly big business as "Green Dolphin Street" and "Variety Girl" joined the parade of box-office hits.

"Dolphin" looks like record business at the Criterion where the film is headed for a first week's gross of $60,000. At the Paramount, "Variety Girl," with Charlie Spivak's orchestra and Mel Torme and others on stage looks like a huge $90,000 in its initial week.

"Song of Love," with the stage presentation at the Music Hall continues at a robust pace, having grossed $81,000 Thursday through Sunday, indicating about $135,000 for a second week. "The Swordsman" bowed in at the Capitol with Gertrude Niesen and others on stage and this new entry also is taking in strong revenue, estimated at $72,000 for an initial stanza.

'Pink Horse' Still Rides High

"Ride the Pink Horse" is a favorite at the Winter Garden which looks for $28,000 in a second week. "Life with Father" is holding up nicely at the Warner where the 10th week's gross is likely to hit $28,000. For "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," at the Astor, in a 10th week, business should hit around $33,000.

"Magic Town" is doing splendidly at the Palace where the second week's figure is $25,000. "Unconquered," at the Rivoli, is a superb box-office performer with returns of $70,000 for the second week indicated. Business for the first was over $85,000.

The fourth week of "Fun and Fancy Free," at the Globe, is good for $24,000, while the Mayfair's "Nightmare Alley" lost a little ground, but is still good with an estimated $25,000 for a second week. "The Unsuspected," with Blue Barron's orchestra on stage at the Strand, probably will take in a good $38,000 in a third week.

'Amber' Starts Run Today

"The Foxes of Harrow," with Milton Berle topping the stage bill, at the Roxy, concluded its fourth and final week with a handsome $90,000, to make way for "Forever Amber," opening there today. "The Spirit of West Point" is holding up well at the Victoria where a second week's gross is figured at $14,000.

"I Know Where I'm Going" is doing a remarkably good job at the Sutton where the ninth week's gross is estimated at $9,000. "Hungry Hill," with an estimated second week's gross of $7,500, is about fair at the Park. At the Little Carnegie, "The Tawny Pipit" is about average with $5,500 apparent for a seventh week. Not too strong is "Adventure Island," at the Gotham, which should take in about $7,500 for a first week. "The Outlaw" continues as a healthy contender at the Broadway with $25,000 likely for the sixth week of the run.

Pyle, Orlove Switch

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 21. — Norman Pyle, for the past seven years field representative for M-G-M in the Minneapolis zone, has been transferred to Chicago, in a shift of exploiteers. In the shift, Louis Orlove, veteran exploiteer, will cover Minneapolis as well as Milwaukee, where he has served as field representative for several years.

Review

"Man About Town"

(Pathe Cinema-RKO Radio) *Hollywood, Oct. 21*

ANY exhibitor who has ever worried, or been doubtful, about a foreign language film on his screen can forget his misgivings with this one. In the first place, that French entertainer with the jut jaw, Maurice Chevalier, well known even to a later generation of theatregoers, takes care of that. With his delightfully accentuated commentation at the right time and place, during the story's twists and turns, his bow to American audiences as a straight dramatic actor and star of the film, makes one forget that it is a French language production.

A refreshing hour and a half in the theatre, the pleasure it gives with its "old boy meets young girl" theme readily reveals why this film was the grand prize winner of the 1947 Brussels World Film Festival. They did not even have to change its title from "Le Silence est d'Or" to its present tag to insure its high entertainment value with motion picture audiences.

For its release through RKO Radio to English-speaking audiences, the sponsors have displayed nice showmanship with a pictorial prologue of Chevalier singing two songs—straw-hatted in one—that endeared him first to American theatregoers more than a score of years ago. His original style and personality will do likewise with the newer generation and give him an ace in the hole for his following appearance in the screen story as an old buck whose enforced propinquity with a teen-aged damsel brings on a slow, but solid, case of romance.

No degree of cutting room skill could have altered the frank French manner in which the story is unfolded. The daughter of an old French provincial ham actor, is taken under wing by Chevalier when she fails to fulfill a rendezvous with her father in Paris. As a director of motion pictures at the turn of the century, Chevalier starts her on an acting career but guards her against all males with a clucking hen's watchfulness and paternal sincerity that provides some of the picture's outstanding laugh highlights.

As to be expected, in the pat but delightfully developed story, young love enters the scene at the time and place when Chevalier is preening his middle-aged self into believing that romance has come to him. How this intrusion is resolved to bring an amusing and very satisfying climax to the story should no more be revealed here than tipping off the denouement of a mystery drama.

Chevalier's leading lady, off screen the extremely charming daughter of a French naval officer, makes her cinema debut in this picture with a performance that will bring chuckles and a catch to any normal throat. She is Marcelle Derrien, from whom we ought to see and hear more later.

Support players refreshingly new types for the domestic screen, who prove Latins are past masters at pantomime, include Francois Perier, Dany Robin, Robert Pizani, Raimond Cordy, Paul Olivier and Roland Armontel. As a surefire cachet that a picture of French theme and language can be American box-office, that triple genius, Rene Clair, wrote, produced and directed it!

W. J. MCGRATH

W. Benjamin Will Head Exchange

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 21.—Don Swartz, distributor for Astor, Realart and other independent film product in the Minneapolis and Milwaukee territories, has appointed W. Benjamin as head of sales for his Milwaukee exchange.

The Milwaukee office will operate as Realart Pictures of Milwaukee. The Minneapolis exchange operates as Don Swartz, Independent Film Distributor.

Swartz also disclosed this week that he plans opening poster exchanges in both Milwaukee and Des Moines within 60 days, which will operate as branches of his Independent Poster Exchange of Minneapolis.

Pioneers Pick Jessel

Actor-producer George Jessel will be master-of-ceremonies at the eighth annual dinner of the Motion Picture Pioneers, which will be held on Nov. 19 at the Plaza Hotel, here, it was announced here yesterday by Jack Cohn, Columbia vice-president and president of the Pioneers.

Pioneers Invite Mayor

Mayor William O'Dwyer has been invited to attend the Picture Pioneers Thanksgiving dinner at the Hotel Plaza here on Nov. 19 by Jack Cohn, head of the organization. Hal Horne is in charge of the arrangements committee.

Allied-Monogram Set On European Deals

William Satori, European representative for Monogram International, with headquarters in London, reports to Norton V. Ritchey, M.I. president, that distribution arrangements for Allied Artists-Monogram product now exist with Mon-opol Films A.G., Zurich, for Switzerland; Interfilm—Association Internationale Cinématographique, Paris, for France, Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco; with Giovanni De Berardinis, Rome, for Italy; Sica Film, Brussels, for Belgium and Luxemburg; with A/B Terra Film, Stockholm, for Sweden, and with A/S Fotorama, Oslo, for Norway.

Most of the remaining European countries are now taken care of by MPEA.

P. Mayer, P. Sperling In New Coast Posts

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Pete Mayer has joined Robert Presnell-John Reinhardt Arpi Productions as production assistant, and immediately will begin work on "For You I Die," which will be released by Film Classics, as the latter company's second new picture. Mayer, son of Arthur Mayer, New York exhibitor, and distributor of foreign pictures, resigned from Marathon Productions to take over his new post.

Paul Sperling, formerly with Monogram, has also joined Arpi in a production capacity.

New Rank Projector Is Introduced Here

A new 35mm. sound projection, product of Gaumont-Kalee, London, of which J. Arthur Rank is board chairman, was introduced here yesterday at the convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, with the high cost of the equipment emphasized, rather than minimized, by Edward L. Harris, general manager of the company's Canadian division.

Harris made it clear that the price, as yet unset because tariff costs have not been determined, will be substantially more than that for standard American product.

Brian O'Brian, director of the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester, yesterday read a paper prepared by himself and Gordon G. Milne, the Institute's research associate, describing the development and operation of a high-speed "freezing action" motion picture camera.

Maguire Discusses City Code

Another who addressed the SMPE convention is Edward C. Maguire, New York City co-ordinator of film production, who said a simplified code of operations for companies using the city for productions will be ready in about three months. Maguire said that since late August "not one picture company which has come to New York has had a complaint."

Eastman Kodak will market a 16mm. motion picture camera for recording television programs on film. The company envisions a "film network" for television through use of the camera, it was disclosed.

The camera, described as the first of its kind, produces motion pictures directly from the face of the monitoring "picture tube" in a television broadcasting station, taking pictures at the rate of 24 frames a second. Sound is recorded separately by standard methods.

Kodak Camera on Display

Kodak has placed the camera on display at the SMPE convention.

The company said the camera was developed in cooperation with National Broadcasting's station WNBT and the Allen B. DuMont studio at WABD. Three Kodak engineers, Joseph L. Boon, William Feldman and Joseph Stoiber, will describe technical details of the camera in a paper to be presented by Feldman at an SMPE meeting on Thursday.

At tomorrow night's session, the first New York demonstration of an experimental large-screen television projector, developed by RCA, will be given.

Re-appoint Ray Gallo

Ray Gallo, advertising manager of *Motion Picture Herald's Better Theatres* section, again has been appointed to the membership and subscription comittee of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers for another year. Committee is headed by Lee Jones of Neumade Products.

$8,000 Philadelphia Theft

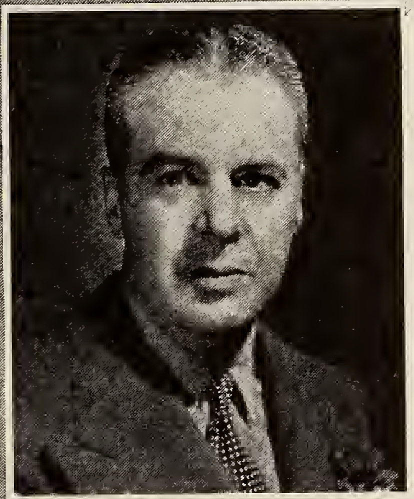
PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 21.—Warners' Mastbaum Theatre here was robbed of about $8,000 here this week when assistant manager Charles J. Werner was forced at gun-point to open the safe by two masked men. Werner was clubbed by the bandits, was found unconscious by manager Al Reh, and is now in Hahnemann Hospital here.

EAGLE LION FILMS

Eagle Lion

is proud to welcome

Walter Wanger



"CANYON PASSAGE"
"SMASH UP"
"ALGIERS"
"STAGECOACH"
"LONG VOYAGE HOME"
"QUEEN CHRISTINA"
"PRIVATE WORLDS"
"ARABIAN NIGHTS"

who has given the
public many of its most
memorable film experiences,
combining box-office
entertainment with
high artistic purpose.

EAGLE LION FILMS

McNutt Lashes

(*Continued from page 1*)

no defense," McNutt declared. "But the American public is not ignorant of what has been going on.

It knows the producers have done a pretty good job through the years. If there has been subversive propaganda which we say the product itself will disavow, then it must have been so subtle the public has never recognized it. This being the case, it must have disappeared into thin air.

"In the two days of these hearings, it has become obvious that management is not communistic. If anything, it has been made clear that management is anti-Communistic. It also has been made obvious no government pressure was exercised in the making of any of the pictures mentioned.

"Since, in the end, the man who produces is responsible for the product he makes, it is our position each employer has full right to determine whom he employs."

At the same time, McNutt admitted on a question that Communists were to be found in Hollywood. "You'll find them here in Washington and elsewhere, also," he observed.

McNutt rejected totally a suggestion made on Monday by Rep. Richard B. Vail, of Illinois, that the Association of Motion Picture Producers would be an excellent clearing house for the assemblage and the dissemination of information about the political inclinations of those employed in Hollywood. This, McNutt, stated, suggests adoption of a "blacklist" which would be untenable because it could not be supported under existing circumstances since neither Congress, nor the Supreme Court, nor the Government itself has established decision or policy on the rights of those subscribing to Communistic ideology.

The industry, he continued, was prepared to produce on short order any films appearing on the Committee's "suspect" list.

McNutt revealed his request to the Committee for the list of films which were considered subversive after Moffitt declined to state a list of films which in his opinion, employed techniques or Communist propaganda.

Screen writer-critic Moffitt told the committee that if he revealed the names of films, some of which employed what he called "the drop of water or five-minute technique," it would create hardship for many loyal Americans. He would be willing to name them in executive session, however, he said.

Chairman Thomas then replied that the committee would hear them in executive session as soon as possible.

First witness this morning was actor Adolphe Menjou, who told the committee that some of the best work has already been done in rooting out subversive elements from the industry.

"For a little more than a year now," he testified, "the motion picture industry has been doing everything it can to rid itself of subversive influence." Menjou told the five committee members present that "95 per cent of the people in California are decent, honest American citizens."

"The Communists are a minority," he asserted, "but they are a dangerous minority."

In response to questioning by Rep. Richard M. Nixon, of California, Menjou said he would not advocate that any producer should discharge from his employ a person proved to be a Communist. Instead, he advocated "eternal vigilance."

"They must be watched very carefully," he said, and explained that in his opinion a writer or a director who was watched could not produce any un-American material.

At another point in the testimony, however, Menjou maintained that he considered Communists in this country to be agents of the Comintern and that the Communist party should be outlawed here.

Describes Self as 'Witch-Hunter'

"I'm a witch-hunter," he said, "if the witch is a Communist."

Menjou, who received kudos from the committee for his background knowledge on the subject of Communism, lauded industry studio heads as "as fine a group of men as I have ever met," and "as patriotic a group of Americans as you will meet anywhere." During the past year, he stated, and since the committee began its investigation into alleged Communist influence in Hollywood, an "amazing change" has taken place in Hollywood. Speaking of alleged Communist activity there he declared, "we are curing people every day."

In response to questioning, Menjou declared that in his opinion, Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, carried a membership card in the Communist party. He lashed out at Sorrell for being responsible for "the most incredible brutality, beating and violation of the California picketing law" in Sorrell's conduct of the Hollywood jurisdictional strike.

In his opening testimony Menjou said he was not appearing before the committee to smear.

"I am here," he said, "to defend the industry in which I have spent the greater part of my life and to defend the producers of the motion picture industry."

Menjou was strongly applauded by the spectators at the close of his testimony.

Moffitt Lauds Producers

Second witness at the morning session, screen writer-critic Jack Moffitt, told the committee that the producers have a fine record of keeping Communist propaganda off the screen. Moffitt, however, named several Hollywood writers and directors as Communists. Among them were Donald Ogden Stewart and John Howard Lawson, mentioned by previous committee witnesses, and Herbert Biberman.

Lawson, he said, made a practice of telling writers "to get five minutes of a Communist message "on the screen in a very expensive shot, which producers could not later afford to cut out of a picture. Moffitt also charged that Lawson told young actors that whenever they were on the screen, even as extras they should look downtrodden if they were playing the part of workers and poor people, should look decadent if they were portraying people of wealth.

Moffitt declared that alleged Communists employed specialized techniques for injecting propaganda on the screen. He cited the techniques of portraying a banker as a villain, portraying a returned soldier who feels that business, the people and the system of free enterprise are against him, portraying ministers of the church as being duped by the rich. As an example of unfavorable characterization of a banker, Moffitt

(*Continued on page 7*)

Washington Ringside

(*Continued from page 1*)

committee asked Menjou the identical question today. He answered he never had in the ranks of the Screen Actors Guild although "there were a lot who acted an awful lot like Communists."

•

Jack Moffitt, former critic and later scenarist, placed much emphasis on what he described as the "drop of water" technique. This, he testified, was an infiltration method held to five minutes of screen time in which Hollywood's alleged subversives get in their lick. It is usually attempted in expensive negatives and so contrived that re-shooting or deletion by editing becomes difficult without adding handsomely to production costs, always assuming the studio heads are able to detect these 300 seconds of propaganda.

Someone was persuaded to observe, "if such propaganda is as subtle as all this, the chances are it can't do much harm, provided it exists in the first instance."

•

Rubert Hughes, author, was spread into the record with the charge that Hollywood has produced no anti-communist films because producers have been warned that "party-liners" and "fellow-travelers" would picket theatres, cut up seats and throw "stinkpots."

"'Ninotchka' didn't seem to turn loose any violence in theatres," a reporter said to this witness later "Correct. Maybe it was because Great Garbo was in it," Hughes replied.

•

In a hearing thus far often punctuated by many charges yet to be proven, one of Hughes' perhaps proved to be the most fantastic. He charged the University of California in Los Angeles with being a "Communist university." Segments of the gallery tittered. Chairman Thomas, apparently, found this too much. He ordered the remark stricken from the record.

•

Today, it's Bob Taylor, if his transportation works out on schedule. There'll be standing room in the visitors section. It's a cinch.

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McNutt Lashes

(Continued from preceding page)

named Emmet Lavery's play "Gentleman From Athens."

He read to the committee spot passages from the play, which he said could be interpreted as deriding Congress and American democracy.

Author and screen writer Rupert Hughes, who followed Moffitt on the witness stand, quoted to the committee cases in which producers had been deterred from producing anti-Communist films after threats that Communists would "wreck" any theatre in which such a picture were shown.

"It looks like you've given us a new idea," Chairman Thomas said.

Moffitt read to the committee list of alleged Communist screen writers printed some time ago in a Hollywood paper, along with Communist party numbers attributed to each. The paper, Moffitt said, had asked each person listed if he were a Communist, but to date Moffitt said he had heard of no denial.

The names which Moffitt submitted, along with the numbers attached to some, were: Albert Maltz, 48062: Robert Rosson; Dalton Trumbo, 36,805, Gordon Kahn, 48,294; Ring Lardner, Jr., 25,109; Richard J. Collins, 11,148; Harold Buchman, 46,802; Lester Cole, 46,805; Henry Myers, 25,065; Maurice Rapf, 25,113; William Pomerance; Harold J. Salemson; and John Wexley.

Cites Alleged Threat

Hughes gave as alleged instances of Communist pressure in Hollywood a script ridiculing Communism, which he had been paid to write and which was shelved after Communists told Warners they would "wreck the theatres" where the picture was shown.

He declared in one case producer Hal Wallis had been "scared off" from making an anti-Communist picture when he was told that "Communists would put stink-pots" in the picture. He also told the committee that the wife of an allegedly "prominent" Communist, herself a Communist, had similarly threatened producer Sol Lesser, forcing him to withdraw a picture based on a book about Russia.

Hughes, one of the founders of the Screen Writers Guild, replied under questioning that the Guild has been under "strong Communist domination" up to the present. He said the anti-Communist element in the Guild was trying now to take hold, but that he did not think they would be successful.

Stellar witness tomorrow is expected to be actor Robert Taylor. Others slated to appear are James K. McGuinness, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and writers Morrie Ryskind, Oliver Carlson, Howard Rushmore, Richard McCauley, Fred Niblo, Jr., and Ayn Rand.

Attorney Evicted from Hearing

Today's first disturbance came during testimony, when Charles Katz, attorney for 18 subpoenaed writers and directors, stepped forth to demand from Thomas "the same right of questioning as you have." After Katz refused to be silenced by the gavel, Thomas ordered Capitol guards to eject the attorney from the caucus room.

Later Thomas silenced Katz's fellow attorney, Bartley Crum, when he also attempted to object to the proceedings.

Earlier this morning Robert Kenny, chief counsel for the group, issued a statement saying the committee denied "the basic guarantee of due process" when it refused to permit cross-examination of persons who took the stand yesterday.

Kenny pointed out that, if he had been permitted to question Warner Brothers' vice-president, Jack L. Warner yesterday, he would have been able to prove that "not one single specific line of subversive propaganda was ever sought to be introduced into any one of the films that he mentioned by any one of the writers that he names."

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CSU Head Says Adolphe Menjou Was 'Coached' on Testimony

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Commenting on testimony given today by Adolphe Menjou before the House Un-American Activities Committee to the effect that Herbert K. Sorrell is a Communist, the Conference of Studio Unions leader retorted that Menjou had never investigated him, to his knowledge. Sorrell added that the actor was probably reading from a script prepared for him by State Senator Jack B. Tenney or other local figures.

Studio 'Peace' Talks

(Continued from page 1)

day of talks ended with a tight veil of secrecy cloaking the results of the meeting.

A report did seep through, however, that Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, was remaining adamant against any compromise or the relinquishing of his union's position on the studio jobs in dispute with the Carpenters Union. During the morning session today with Kearns and Maurice A. Hutcheson, first vice-president of the Carpenters Union, Walsh declared, according to reports: "We're getting nowhere. 'IA' is in the studios and they (Carpenters) are out. That's all there is to it."

Nelson and Snyder Discuss UK Problem

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, discussed the British situation and the general foreign problem with Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, here, today, but declined to reveal any details of the discussion.

Nelson, who has been here trying to contact Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston to set up a joint SIMPP-MPA meeting on the British tax problem, left for New York this afternoon. Aides said he would come back later this week to talk to Johnston, and was still hopeful of having the joint meeting later this week or early next. Johnston has been tied up with the un-American hearings and a speech before the *Herald-Tribune* forum in New York, and has been unable to see Nelson.

Variety Will Meet

(Continued from page 1)

will have headquarters at the Mayo Hotel. During the evening they will be the guests of Ralph Talbot and J. C. Hunter of Talbot Theatres. On Monday morning the first mid-season meeting of national officers will take place, with R. J. O'Donnell, international chief barker, as chairman.

Each tent has been invited to send its chief barker to the meeting at which the international tent will make an interim report on its activities since the Los Angeles convention, last May. Suggestions for further expansion of the clubs and their charitable activities will be taken up. A report on plans for the next international convention scheduled for Miami Beach, next April, will be given by Chick Lewis, convention director.

National officers scheduled to attend are: John H. Harris, O'Donnell, Carter Barron, C. J. Latta, Marc Wolf, Jack Beresin, Lewis and William McCraw.

Canadian Music Tax

(Continued from page 1)

Picture Theatres Association of Ontario by Nat Taylor, director of the group, and a 20th Century Theatres executive.

Delegates to the meeting endorsed a resolution offered by Morris Stein of Famous Players, calling on the Dominion Government to abolish the 20 per cent war tax on theatre grosses at the earliest possible moment.

The Ontario MPTA closed the year with 326 members.

British MP's

(Continued from page 1)

tion. In outlining the legislative program, which is pending, His Majesty pointed up the film quota bill which is now in Commons.

Meanwhile, there is rumored to be widespread public concern over possibility that the government will dip ultimately into the gold reserved for the sterling area in order to meet American commitments. The Treasury, although normally keeping such movements secret, has made an official announcement admitting that a further 30,000,000 pounds in gold have been sold in New York, making 50,000,000 pounds thus disposed of within a few weeks.

The Treasury also admitted that $180,000,000 has been purchased from the International Monetary Fund.

The Treasury has acknowledged that this heavy drain is due to continued dollar area pressure on the sterling exchange, and said further inroads are anticipated.

Eire U. S. Film Bill

(Continued from page 1)

amount was assessed since all film earnings are paid to London in sterling and there is no known method by which the government here can check on figures. Disclosure of the amount is the first intimation of any arrangement between the British Treasury and the Eire Government concerning films and the dollar pool.

Meanwhile, a big question has loomed in film circles here: What influence will the British Treasury have on future trading between American film companies and Eire?

Meanwhile, Irish exhibitors were shocked when Aiken announced increased entertainment taxes will be levied. To peg the cost of living, the Finance Ministry will subsidise certain rationed goods with revenue which will come from the increased taxes on tobacco, liquor and entertainment. The new tax, which will become effective on Jan. 1, is said to be definitely designed to curb expenditures on film-going.

TOA Board Members

(Continued from page 1)

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois.

Because of his inability to attend the first TOA board session in Chicago, on Nov. 7-8, Morton G. Thalhimer, originally appointed, has designated Ben J. Pitts to represent the Virginia Motion Picture Theatres Association.

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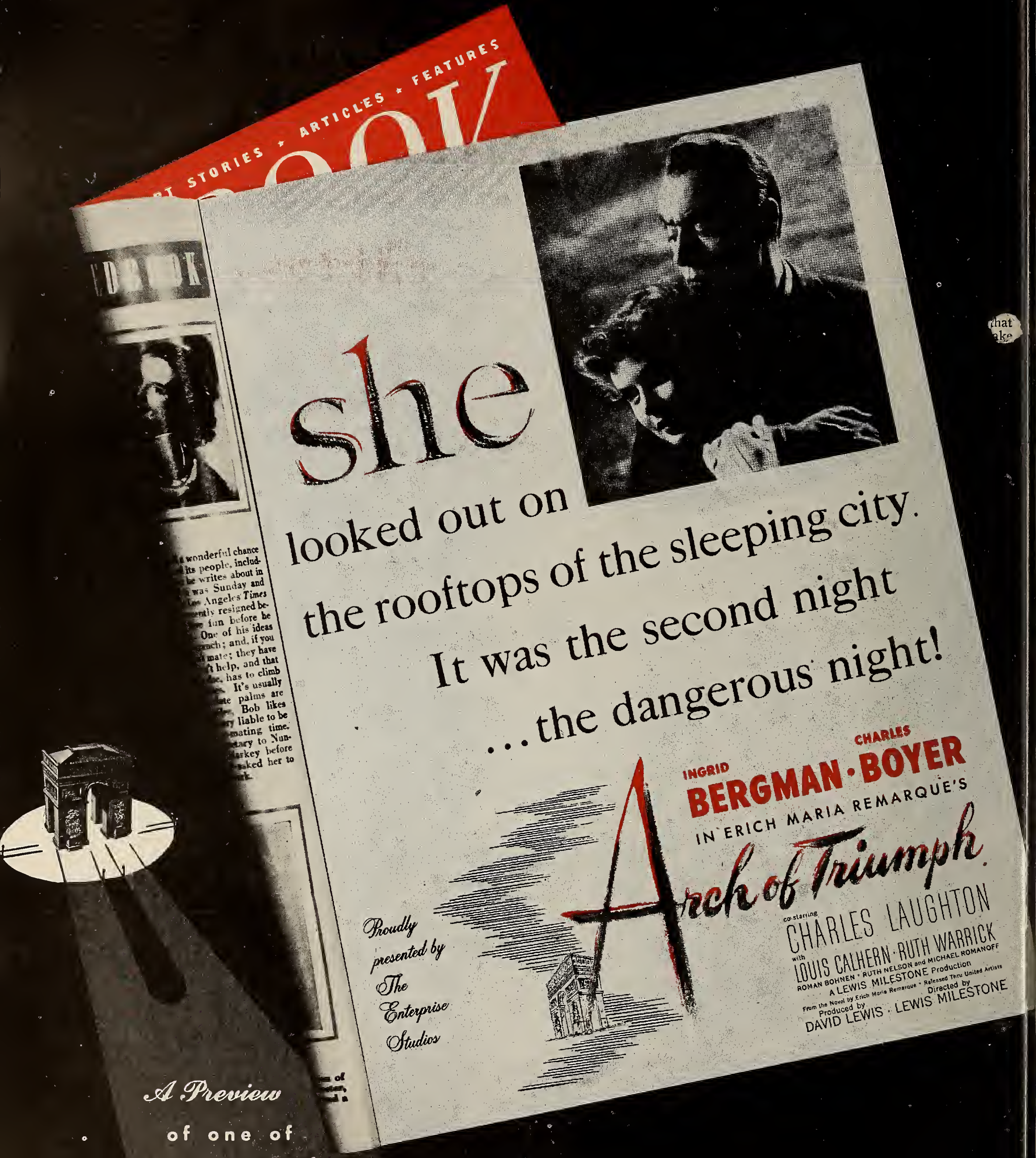

she

looked out on
the rooftops of the sleeping city.
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... the dangerous night!

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Ask Dalton to Explain Free Reissue Money

Why Tax New Pictures Only? Commons Asks

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 22.—The question was propounded in the House of Commons today as to how the British government can reconcile its 75 per cent import tax on new American motion pictures with the fact that reissues of Hollywood product—which have been overwhelming in number in recent weeks—are unrestricted so far as remittances to the U. S. are concerned.

The answer is to be given next week by Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton, upon whose order the *ad valorem* duty was effected.

Meanwhile, new developments in the overall tax and monetary matter

(*Continued on page 6*)

Lightman Suit Seen Near Settlement

MEMPHIS, Oct. 22.—The $3,378,000 suit against M. A. Lightman, Paul and W. P. Zerilla, their associates and eight distributing companies is very near a settlement, Lightman said today.

The suit, filed in Federal Court under the anti-trust acts, by a group of neighborhood theatres, charged the defendants with operating a monopoly on films in Memphis. Settlement figure is reported to be $150,000.

Lightman said the basis of the settlement called for the establishment

(*Continued on page 6*)

Major's Labor Unit Meets with Kearns

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Following a meeting with labor representatives of the major producers, Representative Carroll D. Kearns today said that the announcement of the outcome of his meetings with union leaders on the studio jurisdictional strife during the past three days will be revealed tomorrow. The talks, first to be held with producer representatives during the current sessions, were held to clear certain testimony given during earlier hearings before the House Labor sub-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Seek MPA-SIMPP Meet Next Week

Washington, Oct. 20.—Officials of the Motion Picture Association and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers are now trying to set up for next week a joint meeting of the top officials of the two groups on the British tax situation.

Such a meeting had originally been hoped for this week, but MPA President Eric Johnston and other high MPA officials have been tied up with the House Un-American Activities Committee's hearings, and the meeting could not be arranged.

Mass on Worldwide Tour for MPEA

Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, will leave New York tomorrow for an eight-week global inspection tour of MPEA territories. Flying West, Maas' itinerary will take him first to the Orient where he will visit, for the first time, MPEA offices and installations in Tokyo, Seoul and Batavia. On the Continent, Maas will stop off at Prague, Vienna, Berlin and Amsterdam, with visits to other MPEA capitals contingent on visa clearances.

At all points, Maas will inspect

(*Continued on page 6*)

ITOA May Rescind Anti-Ascap Motion

It is held likely here that the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, plaintiff in an anti-trust suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, will withdraw its separate motion seeking to enjoin Ascap from increasing its rates. Instead of immediately pressing the motion, which is scheduled to be argued tomorrow, ITOA counsel is considering a stipulation with Ascap attorneys under which the anti-trust case would be placed immediately on the New York Federal Court calendar. If the court agrees, the suit probably would go to trial in January.

Another consideration, however, is the fact that Ascap intends to increase its music performing rights fees by Feb. 1. In the event the New York court does not dispose of the case by that time, ITOA would again bring the motion before the court within the framework of the trust case.

It is understood that lawyers for both sides already have consulted Judge John C. Knox regarding withdrawal of the motion for the restraining order.

Legion Condemns 20th's 'Amber'

The National Legion of Decency, "basing its judgment solely on the film itself," has placed 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" in the condemned classification.

The Legion gave the following reasons for its action: "This film in the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 22

INDUSTRY representatives passed through a somewhat disturbing morning in the wake of a *Washington Post* editorial charging producers with inviting censorship and asking the Government to step in to protect them from their own employes.

But when they got around to the airmail edition of the *New York Herald Tribune* with today's lead editorial, the gloom began to lift. That editorial hammered away at the first two day's hearings before the Un-American Activities Committee, declared the charges made were unsubstantiated and took a crack, in wholesale, at chairman J. Parnell Thomas.

The editorial also got around to the industry's basic argument which is that the answer to suspicions and charges of Communistic propaganda in Hollywood was to be found in the films themselves, not in the testimony of witnesses who may or may not be in the position of proving their allegations. "But clearly this is not the case—not even the committee's own witnesses are willing to make so fantastic a charge," stated the *Herald Tribune* which punched through with this closing observation to which many here subscribe:

"Not Hollywood but Congress is being investigated here, and once again the testimony indicates that the system of Congressional investigating committees needs overhauling.

"The entire process, in which a committee chairman is allowed unlimited freedom and his targets must remain simply targets, is inherently offensive and should be changed to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hearings Aim At Controlled Screen: McNutt

McGuinness and Taylor Testify; More Today

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Paul V. McNutt, coordinator-counsel for the Motion Picture Association, declared today that he "was shocked to see the violence done to the principle of free speech during the hearings" on the third day of an investigation on alleged Communist infiltration in Hollywood currently being conducted by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

McNutt referred to repeated and insistent questioning of witness James K. McGuinness, M-G-M studio executive, on production of anti-Communist films, by both committee members and examiners.

"It became apparent during the chairman's questioning of

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Red' Label Knifes Freedom: McNutt

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The motion picture industry cannot be a free medium of expression if it must live in fear of the damning epithet "un-American" whenever it elects to introduce a new idea, produce a picture critical of the status quo, or point up through pictures some phase of our way of life which needs improving.

This is the message Paul V. McNutt gave the American people in a nationwide radio address over ABC tonight. Promising that producers

(*Continued on page 7*)

Dollinger to Head N. J. Allied Board

Irving Dollinger has been elected New Jersey Allied's first board chairman by the organization's membership. Heretofore without a chairman, Jersey Allied has established such an

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"The Upturned Glass" and "That Hagen Girl" are reviewed on page 3. Key city gross reports are also on page 3.

Personal Mention

OTTO PREMINGER, 20th Century-Fox director, is in town from the Coast.

•

Dick Colbert, Universal-International booker in San Francisco, has replaced **Bob Bram** as office manager of U-I's Salt Lake City office. **Bram** has been transferred to Denver as office manager.

•

Fred Meyers, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, is in Cleveland from New York and will be in Pittsburgh over the weekend.

•

Robert Selig, assistant to the president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, has been named publicity director for the Community Chest drive in Denver.

•

Ray Ketcham, president of the Wooster (Ohio) Junior Chamber of Commerce, has been named manager of the newly-opened Skyline Auto Theatre in that city.

•

Maurice Baker has resigned as manager of the Palace Theatre, Youngstown, O., to operate his own recently-acquired theatre at Fort Myers, Fla.

•

Frank Anderson, North Dakota sales representative for Paramount, has taken an indefinite leave of absence after 24 years with the company. **Duane Becker** replaces him.

•

George MacDonald has been transferred to Watsonville, Cal., as manager of the State Theatre from the Padre Theatre, San Jose.

•

Max Friedman, Warner Theatres buyer and booker in Albany, N. Y., and **Mrs. Friedman** are parents of a daughter.

•

Paul Sanders, owner and general manager of Sanders Theatres, Campbellsville, Ky., has returned to that city from Washington.

•

Hugh Rennie, 20th Century-Fox salesman in Denver, will retire on Oct. 30 after 20 years' service with the company.

•

Ralph Falkinburg, Lexington, Neb., exhibitor, is recuperating following an eye operation in Salt Lake City.

•

Ralph McCoy, Eagle Lion Southern district manager, is in Memphis from Atlanta.

•

Marlene Dietrich will arrive here tomorrow on the *S.S. America* from Europe.

•

Ray Church has purchased the Great Theatre, Delta, Utah from **Bill Pace**.

•

Godfried Reinhardt, producer-director, is in New York from the Coast.

Chicago Industry in Renewed Tax Fight

CHICAGO, Oct. 22. — Resistance to the proposed three per cent city amusement tax is being heightened as circuit and independent theatre managers yesterday were asked to forego routine house operations all next week and devote all efforts to organizing public sentiment against the measure, which is scheduled to come up at the next City Council meeting on Oct. 29.

In a closed day-long session here, Edwin Silverman, chairman of the newly-formed Amusement Industry of Chicago, outlined the campaign to be used by theatres and briefed representatives from each ward in the city on specific responsibilities.

Starting immediately, theatres will distribute to patrons postal cards, addressed to the alderman of the ward, protesting the proposed taxation. Houses are also putting displays in all lobbies. A trailer opposing the measure and featuring Ray Milland has been flown in from the Coast, and is expected to be used shortly. There also are reports of hiring a group of tax and economic experts to present a program to the city showing how money can be raised without using discriminatory action such as theatremen maintain is contemplated.

Goldwurm, Schwartz Enter Distribution

Times Film Corp. has been formed here by Jean Goldwurm and George Schwartz, who operate the World Theatre and also own the property of the Little Carnegie. both foreign film houses in New York.

First release will be the Italian film, "To Live in Peace" recently produced in Rome by Lux-Pao. Another picture purchased is the Italian film "The Bandit."

Floersheimer in Reade Ad Post

Albert Floersheimer, Jr., has joined Walter Reade Theatres as director of advertising and public relations, according to an announcement yesterday by Walter Reade, Jr. Stephen W. Brener, whom Floersheimer replaces, resigned to enter the real estate business.

Floersheimer served four years in the Signal Corps Photographic Corps, at the Army's studios in Astoria, L. I.

Coast Charity Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22. — Permanent Charities Committee has launched its third annual united appeal with 800 volunteer captains seeking $1,312,190 for 193 agencies. Two previous campaigns averaged $70.60 per person from production personnel alone.

Explosion in Theatre

PENSACOLA, Fla., Oct. 22. — One man was killed and several hundred were thrown into panic when an air compressor exploded in a local theatre. John Mann, engineer, was fatally injured.

SOPEG Appeals to Company Heads

Letters were sent yesterday to the eight major company presidents by the individual company chapters of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, protesting the reputed insistency by the company upon separate arbitration of the salary question. Previously the companies and the union negotiated on the industrywide basis. The letters asserted that separate arbitration would involve a delay of the settlement of the entire question of increases.

A joint SOPEG-Screen Publicists Guild meeting was held here last night to map further action.

$155,000 Paid in Year By Warner Club

Approximately $155,000 in gratuities was paid out in the past year by the Warner Club, Inc., national social-welfare organization of Warner employes, according to Stuart H. Aarons, president.

Of this amount, $23,000 represented marriage gratuities, $21,000 were for births and $86,000 for sickness. In addition, $7,500 was contributed to indigent members, while emergency loans totaled $15,000.

In all, 2,125 club members—one out of every six—received either gratuities or help.

Pittsburgh Variety Elects Crew Men

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 22.—The local Variety Club has elected 11 crew members who will go into session later to pick officers for the coming year from the group.

Those elected were: Pete Dana, Carl Dozer, George Eby, I. Elmer Ecker, Sam Fineberg, Sam Speranza, Bert Stearn, Ben Steerman, Tom Troy, John Walsh and Al Weiblinger. Eby and Steerman will serve as delegates to the Miami national convention next spring. M. A. Silver was elected national canvassman and Cliff Daniel was named alternate.

Smith-Howell, Schine Clash on Rate Rise

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 22. — At a hearing before Public Service Commission examiner V. M. Parshall on Smith and Howell Film Service's application for a 25 per cent increase in rates for carrying films and advertising material—granted temporarily last May 1—company secretary Francis Smith said the increase was "justified to meet operating costs." Three Schine Circuit representatives declared the increase was unwarranted.

Nelson To Testify

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22. — Donald Nelson, head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will be a witness before the Senate's Brewster War Investigating committee here tomorrow. The Brewster committee is investigating the Government's war mobilization efforts and Nelson is being called because of his wartime role as head of the War Production Board.

British Plan Circuit Of Video Theatres

Plans for the daily operation of a "sample" theatre television system in London and suburbs in 1948 were revealed here last night by A. G. D. West, director of Cinema-Television, London, at the 62nd semi-annual banquet of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, held at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

West said his organization will [illegible]ommend the establishment of such a system for both invited and paying audiences, with programs originating in three production centers.

Theatres of which studies have been made, looking toward installations, include the Leicester Square and Marble Arch theatres of Odeon, the Haymarket and New Victoria of Gaumont, all in London's West End, and Odeon's Swiss Cottage and Gaumont's Lewisham in the suburbs.

The front of the balcony is considered the ideal location for the television projector, West said, if enough theatres have balcony fronts within 50 feet of the screen. The projector could be located in a regular projection booth if a 40-inch spherical mirror were used in the reflective optical system of the projector, he said.

A general analysis of theatre television presented at yesterday's session by Alfred N. Goldsmith, consulting engineer and former president of SMPE, enumerated the several methods of theatre television projection which have been considered, and outlined the advantages and disadvantages of each. Any increase in the present number of lines used in scanning—now 525—should go to at least 800 lines to effect any measurable improvement in story-telling characteristics, he said.

12 - Million DuMont Sales This Year

BOSTON, Oct. 22. — DuMont — in which Paramount Pictures has an interest—is now producing at the rate of 40,000 television sets a year, with 1947 output estimated at 20,000 sets. Allen B. DuMont, president of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., declared here today. The company, he said, expects to have a sales volume of $12,000,000 this year and hopes to reach $25,000,000 in 1948.

The company, DuMont said, has a backlog of orders amounting to about $5,800,000.

Roth Quits E-L

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Max Roth, industry veteran, has resigned as Eagle Lion district manager for Chicago-Indianapolis - Milwaukee - Minneapolis, it was disclosed here today by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L distribution vice-president, who is here for sales meetings, from New York.

3 Join Allied Combine

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—The Chopin, Lindy and Star theatres here have joined both Allied Theatres of Illinois and the Allied buying organization, it was announced by Jack Kirsch, president. The three theatres are owned by E. R. Austerlade.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Ride the Pink Horse" is among three new first-run entries which bettered house averages in a week of fair weather and no counter-attractions, except football. Explanation of the general letdown in attendance was not in evidence. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 22:

BLACK GOLD (Allied Artists-Mono.) and HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,600)

BLACK GOLD (Allied Artists-Mono.) and HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000)

BLACK GOLD (Allied Artists-Mono.) and HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,300)

BLACK GOLD (Allied Artists-Mono.) and HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.) — VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,300)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $17,300)

DARK PASSAGE (WB) — WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,300)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,600)

DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,900)

DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,800)

DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $21,200)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average:$15,700)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox) and THE INVISIBLE WALL (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $21,700)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox) and THE INVISIBLE WALL (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,800)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 10th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $11,400)

LURED (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,300)

LURED (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,600)

LURED (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,200)

LURED (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,300)

RIDE THE PINK HORSE (UI) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.) — GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,100)

RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,100)

RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,300)

RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,900)

RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,400)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $21,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

CHICAGO

Loop business is generally taking an upward spurt with first-run houses in most instances having holdouts for the first time in several weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $12,000)

FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $26,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,500)

HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIR (Col.)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c). On stage: Frankie Laine. Gross: $53,000. (Average: $40,000)

MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,080) (95c) 3 days; **THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)** 4 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $17,500)

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) ($1.25). Gross: $44,000. (Average: $25,500)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $54,000. (Average: $52,000)

WILD HARVEST (Para.)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $30,000)

CINCINNATI

Although no sensational grosses are being recorded, current offerings are doing average or better, with no minus signs in sight. Warm weather prevailed at the weekend. Estimated reipts for the week ending Oct. 21-26:

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,[illegible]00. (Average: $7,500)

CODE OF THE SADDLE (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **GAS HOUSE KIDS GO WEST (E-L).** Gross: $1.700. (Average: $1,600)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

GOLDEN EARRINGS (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (40c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIR (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

PRAIRIE RAIDERS (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days, dualed with **A GIRL, A BOY AND A DOG (Screen Guild).** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.19) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)

BUFFALO

It was a fairly average week here. Weather was unusually warm. "The Foxes of Harrow" led at the Great Lakes. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

CROSSFIRE (RKO) and THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.) — TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)

DARK PASSAGE (WB) — HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $10,000)

FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,000)

GRAPES OF WRATH (20th-Fox reissue) and TOBACCO ROAD (20th-Fox reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)

MERTON OF THE MOVIES (M-G-M) and THE WOMEN (M-G-M reissue) — BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP (U-I) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.) — LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business ranged from fair to good. Weather was clear and warm, an invitation to outdoor activity. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22:

DARK PASSAGE (WB) and EXPOSED (Rep.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)

SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c). Ted Weems' orchestra on stage. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18.500)

THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (M-G-M) and KEY WITNESS (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

WYOMING (Rep.) and SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

Reviews

"The Upturned Glass"

(Rank-Universal-International)

A COUPLE of suicides, a coroner's inquest and murder make for somber stuff in "The Upturned Glass." It has, too, an abundance of Mason Moodiness, in which James Mason appears, almost sinister in his grimness.

"The Upturned Glass" is thorough-going in developing its characters and story alike. The restrained handling makes it not to appear melodramatic at all despite the suicides and homicide. Its utter cheerlessness, though, is not construed here as being a point in its favor. A quickening of tempo also seems more desirable. The show will go over where Mason has had a good turn-out before.

The picture takes its title from Mason's screen character, likened to an upturned glass which should be disposed of. Actually, he does dispose of himself. But this comes at the end, long after he has come to love Rosamund John, investigates her sudden death and learns it was suicide induced by her sister-in-law, Pamela Kellino. He thereupon kills Miss Kellino.

J. Arthur Rank presents the film here, through Universal-International. It is a Sydney Box production, produced by both Box and Mason. Lawrence Huntington directed, doing an impressive job..

Reviewing the picture in the June 18 edition, Motion Picture Daily's London editor, Peter Burnup, was especially impressed by what he called "the superb accomplishment of Mason's acting."

Running time, 87 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date tentatively set for late November.

Gene Arneel

"That Hagen Girl"

(Warner Brothers) *Hollywood, Oct. 22*

THOUGH the plot of this picture is derived from one of the oldest in the book—the bar sinister of the ancient Greek dramatists—it insures any showman, in big city or little town, of surefire interest, human interest at that, in its box-office value. Its guarantee of solid entertainment is cinched by the fact that it has Shirley Temple and Ronald Reagan, plus a handpicked cast of seasoned and well-known featured actors in its top cast. Also, it has an intriguing title that means something on the marquee as compared with many of the recent dubious tags for motion pictures.

As a showmanship job of solid entertainment, it reflects the reason why Alex Gottlieb has been carrying the burden of producing most of Warner's recent money pictures. He has accomplished something recently considered hard to do in Hollywood—that is, to make a picture, the human interest value of which covers an entire community, regardless of age or sex. As the director, Peter Godfrey will also win kudos for the good taste and restraint of his direction, with plenty of temptation in the story to overdo.

The story is as simple and old as Adam. Forked-tongue small town gossips label a young, vibrant girl as being born on the other side of the blanket when the town's toniest family brings home a daughter and confines her to a barred room. Because on the same train there arrives one of the town's middle class mothers, bearing an infant she declares as her own, the coincidence of arrivals of veiled heiress and across-the-tracks housewife with a new-born baby starts tongues wagging.

The fingers point also to Ronald Reagan, former sweetheart of the heiress (who in the end turns out to be entirely innocent and blameless) as the father of Miss Temple, who enters the picture's action as a high school girl. While the vicious gossip builds to seeming fact, Reagan leaves town to finish his law work. In the meantime, Shirley, as "that Hagen girl," is puzzled and grieved by the whispering campaign. When she finally learns the reason for the slights and snubs she endures, she believes Reagan to be her father, and at the height of her shame and despair attempts suicide. After he rescues her from that fate, he tells her that she was adopted by her mother from an orphanage, and reveals that he has long admired her and loved her, the clouds disperse and a wedding march sounds the theme from there on.

In allowing the main supporting cast to take a bow, including Rory Calhoun, Lois Maxwell, Charles Kemper, Harry Davenport, Conrad Janis, Jean Porter, Penny Edward, Nella Walker, Frank Conroy and Tom Fadden, it would be conscience-pricking not to give a hosannah to Dorothy Peterson for providing one of the picture's outstanding bits of acting in her deathbed scene as she clears up the mystery of her foster daughter's orgin. Also a salute for a job well done to Charles Hoffman, who though working with oft used material as the writer of the screenplay, contrived to make it modernly interesting in the treatment.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W. J. McGrath

Hey, Diddle, Diddle
The Cat and the Fiddle,
This Bride Runs Away from

COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

GINGER ROGERS · CORNEL WILDE
in

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with
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Screenplay by Norman Panama and Melvin Frank

Directed by DON HARTMAN and RUDOLPH MATÉ · A DON HARTMAN PRODUCTION

Irresistibly funny!

VOL

Four Grooms!

Triumphantly romantic!

Jersey Federation Sees Bingo Threat

Believing that the new New Jersey state constitution, which will be voted on at the polls next month, can set the stage for a return of bingo-playing in the state's theatres, the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners is weighing plans to oppose adoption of the new document in its present form, a Federation spokesman disclosed here yesterday.

Under the new constitution, it was said, legislation to ease the state's present gambling restrictions would have to be passed by only one legislative session before being presented for public vote, whereas, under the present constitution, such legislation must be passed at two successive sessions.

If the voters should reject the new constitution at the polls, a complete re-draft of it would have to be made at a state constitutional convention before it could be voted upon again.

Al Rackin Expands

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Expansion of his publicity office into the advertising field with the inauguration of a national screening service was announced here yesterday by Al Rackin. With offices in Hollywood, San Francisco, Chicago and New York, A. L. Rackin Associates will feature 16mm. reductions of 35mm. major films. Facilities will also include projectionists, equipment and a complete national booking service.

Dollinger Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

office, which formerly was filled unofficially by the organization's president, because the board's membership has been increased. Dr. Henry Brown and Louis Weisman have been added to the board, which now has a total of 13 members.

These disclosures were made here yesterday by Edward Lachman, president, following a Jersey Allied membership meeting in Newark. The meeting, he said, approved the national Allied board's declaration of policy against advanced admissions and approved national Allied's recommendation that a bill be introduced in Congress to amend the copyright law with a view toward curtailing the theatre music licensing powers of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Jersey Allied, meanwhile, has been in communication with New Jersey congressmen to secure support of such a measure which Lachman said will be introduced at the next session of Congress. He added that replies from congressmen contacted have been "encouraging."

E. Thornton Kelley Quits New Jersey Allied Post

E. Thornton Kelley has resigned as convention chairman and press contact of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, and will announce future plans shortly, the Allied office disclosed here yesterday.

Kelley, whose resignation will become effective next week, is a former New Jersey circuit owner. He declined to state whether he will return to exhibition.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
NEW DATE
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TERRITORIES ONLY
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3
2 P.M.
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 Ninth Ave., N. Y. C.
Previously advertised for Tues., Oct. 28.
Note that this date has been cancelled.

Dalton

(*Continued from page* 1)

come up almost daily. It is understood the government has renewed its application in Washington to de-freeze the balance of its U. S. loan and high circles anticipate that this will be done within a few days. The move is said to have been made in consequence of the public's misgivings upon learning of the grave situation involving dwindling gold reserves.

De-freezing of the balance of the U. S. loan would assist negotiations with the American motion picture industry on the matter of dollar shipments, it is felt here.

In another development, the British Film Producers Association has reversed itself and now desires to participate in the mission to the U. S. planned by the Cinematograph Exhibitor Association's W. R. Fuller and B. T. Davis. Sir Henry French, director general of the BFPA, will soon sail for New York, en route to Mexico City, and, it is understood, would welcome the opportunity to register his views with the Motion Picture Association of America. The British producer group heretofore did not want to be associated with the Fuller mission.

Davis and Fuller have been assured of accommodations for their trip to New York by Friday.

Maas on Tour

(*Continued from page* 1)

MPEA distribution facilities and confer with the association's field managers and representatives on matters and problems bearing on current and future distribution operations. While in Berlin, it is expected that the MPEA chief will hold further confabs with AMG officials with a view to expediting transfer of film distribution controls to MPEA, plans for which were formulated during Maas' visit to Germany earlier this year.

Before completing the global circuit, Maas will spend a few days in Paris for parleys with European managers of MPEA member companies.

Lightman Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

of a new clearance agreement in releasing films for second runs at neighborhood houses that would be satisfactory to the plaintiffs.

Defendants in the suit besides Lightman and the two Zerillas, are: Mose McCord, Joe Maceri, E. P. Sapinsley, Herbert Kohn, L. and L. Theatres, Capitol Realty Co. and the following distributors: Paramount, Warner Brothers, Universal, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Loew's, and Columbia.

Plaintiffs were the owners and operators of the Idlewild, Airways, Luciann, Rosemary, Hollywood and Peabody theatres.

Majors' Labor Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

committee here, the congressman said.

Y. Frank Freeman, Charles Boren and Fred Meyer and other members of the producers' labor committee met with Kearns today at his invitation after he had held a session this morning with IATSE president Richard F. Walsh and Carpenters' vice-president Maurice Hutcheson.

Legion Condemns

(*Continued from page* 1)

nature of the story it tells and the manner in which the behavior of the central character is presented constitutes a glorification of immorality and licentiousness."

The company's home office had no comment on the Legion's action.

Warn L.A. Catholics on 'Amber'

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 22.—A warning to Catholics in the Los Angeles [illegible]diocese that they "may not in [illegible]d conscience" attend showings of "Forever Amber" will be read by pastors to their congregations at all masses this Sunday on instructions from Archbishop John J. Cantwell. The warning will state "Forever Amber" was condemned by the Legion of Decency as "glorifying immorality and licentiousness."

"Amber" has been advertised in local newspapers for simultaneous openings in 26 Los Angeles area theatres, including the Fox West Coast first run string, on Oct. 29, and the film has been booked for openings Nov. 5 in 56 other theatres in the Los Angeles distribution area.

Trim 'Outlaw' in Penna.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 22.—"The Outlaw," which will reopen William Goldman's Erlanger Theatre on Oct. 29, has met the requirements of the Pennsylvania censors, Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, chairman of the state board, disclosing today that eliminations ordered had been made. Nearly five years have elapsed since "The Outlaw" was produced.

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304 East 44th St., N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

Washington Ringside

(*Continued from page* 1)

bring some degree of equity into the proceedings."

●

No one knows, of course, but a number of newspaper editorial criticisms of committee procedure may explain Thomas' second-time statement this committee is not attempting to foist censorship on the industry; that the committee is probing charges of Communism at large in America; that the motion picture industry has no right to feel it enjoys any immunity.

Apparently contradictory, however, was his almost inaudible comment this afternoon in which he said for the first time that the committee, nevertheless, will have a few suggestions to make to producers about screen content.

●

Chief investigator Stripling: "How long have you been an actor"

Witness Robert Taylor: "I have been *employed* as an actor since 1934."

●

Taylor said he believed Hollywood should deal strictly in entertainment. Later, on a question if he thought Hollywood should make anti-Communist films, he reversed himself by saying, "I think the industry would and should make anti-Communist films at the proper time."

●

He also averred he would never work in a film with a known Communist. Robert W. Kenny, representing the 19 Hollywood men seeking to have their subpoenas "quashed" on the ground the committee is unconstitutional, declared it was inconsistent for Taylor to maintain he would never work with a known Communist when Lester Cole, previously described by Taylor as Communist, was author of "The High Wall," the star's next.

●

Morrie Ryskind, prominent in the affairs of the Motion Picture Alliance, and a witness today, was at Harvey's, famous Washington restaurant known widely among film men, with a couple of committee investigators on his flanks. (A rehearsal?)

●

Question to witness Ryskind: "You wrote 'Of Thee I Sing' and 'Louisiana Purchase,' did you not?"

Ryskind: "Yes, and thanks for leaving out the flops in between."

●

Question: "Do you know Gordan Kahn?"

Ryskind: "Yes. In fact, he lives next door to me. My children are friendly with his children. I don't talk to him, but our dogs are very good friends."

Question: "In your opinion, is Kahn a Communist?"

Ryskind: "This won't improve neighborly relations, but I think he is."

●

James K. McGuinness, first of today's witnesses, expressing deep concern over the dangers of Communist infiltration among writers and directors, said the Communist viewpoint only would finally reach the screen if the infiltration ever became complete.

Where the producers, whom he gave a clean bill of health, and the responsibility for the product which they accept fit into this was not made clear. In fact, it was not even mentioned.

●

Representative McDowell, committee member from Pennsylvania, expressed interest in why no anti-Communist films were made during the period when films interpretable as favorable to Russia were. McGuinness reminded, "Russia was our ally then."

●

"If all the films made in the last 10 years were analyzed, their content would prove to be very predominantly American," declared McGuinness. "But we are not infallible. We have stubbed our toes, but will do so less in the future."

●

Chairman Thomas says he has a list of 79 individuals who are proven Communists.

If this is so, why doesn't he release the list for publication? Then everyone can go about his normal business.

Capital Hearings

(*Continued from page* 1)

McGuinness," McNutt said, "that the purpose was to try to dictate and control, through the device of the hearings, what goes on the screens of America."

After committee investigator H. A. Smith had questioned McGuinness about anti-Communist films, chairman J. Parnell Thomas broke in to ask: "Why aren't these films being made?"

McGuinness explained the chief reason now is the length of time required to make a picture.

"It is not so long since Russia was our ally," he said, "and it took some time for the hope that we would reach an understanding with Russia to fade."

He said, however, that he thought some studios had found strong anti-Communist themes by now and that others were searching for them.

Thomas then asked if theatres would be attacked and audiences "discouraged" from attending anti-Communist films if they were made.

There might be such a threat, McGuinness said, "but I hate to think the industry would not have the courage to face it."

Here Representative Richard M. Nixon, of California, interrupted, saying that even if one theatre were attacked for showing an anti-Communist film, the resultant national publicity would bring larger audiences into other theatres showing the film. Such a picture would be "a good business gamble," Nixon said.

McGuinness agreed, and added that making such a film was also a "necessary moral obligation."

"Will these public hearings aid the industry," Thomas questioned, "in giving it the will to make these pictures?"

"It is my opinion that they will," McGuinness replied.

McGuinness said that M-G-M was now planning an anti-Communist film—"The Red Danube." He said that if the industry were approached again by the Government, as it had been during the war when it produced and distributed many films to help the war effort without charges, to produce anti-Communist film as a "patriotic duty" some films would be made.

In continuing his charge, McNutt stated that what went on the screen "is no concern of any Congressional committee. It is the concern solely of those who produce motion pictures."

There is no need for a law "to impair the Constitutional right of free speech," McNutt continued. "It can be done by intimidation and coercion. That is the way of totalitarian regimes which we hate."

However, at a point after chairman Thomas finished questioning McGuinness, Representative John McDowell, of Pennsylvania, told McGuinness he thought that Hollywood should not make any picture "either anti or pro."

"I think I'm on solid ground in saying that the committee is not urging you to make any kind of pictures," McDowell said. "That is a matter for the producers to determine."

McGuinness answered the screen is an "awkward medium" for political expression due to the length of time it takes to produce a picture. But, he maintained, "if the screen expressed one side, it should express the other."

"It appears," McDowell said, "that the motion picture industry has been doing that and that the fight now is largely to keep on."

At one point, when McGuinness was listing names of industry employes who, in his opinion, "followed the party line," Thomas interrupted him to say that McGuinness did not have the documented evidence held by the committee.

"We have a complete record of at least 79 persons in Hollywood," he stated. "The time will come when this documented evidence will be presented in this public hearing." Thomas said the evidence would be presented "either this week or next week."

Thomas also pointed out that the industry should not feel singled out "in the committee's widespread investigation of Communist penetration in many fields." "We're not trying to censor the movies," he said. "We're doing it in other fields. There is no reason to feel the picture business should have any immunity."

McGuinness added his testimony to that of previous witnesses when he said, "I believe with Adolphe Menjou that there is no head of any studio with which I am acquainted who would consciously allow propaganda that served a Communistic purpose to be put on the screen."

When questioned, McGuinness stated that Communists had conducted a campaign to keep a picture of the life of Eddie Rickenbacker from being produced, but that the campaign had been unsuccessful.

At the close of the morning session, Thomas told a press conference that the committee had evidence of Com-

(*Continued on page* 8)

McNutt Broadcast

(*Continued from page* 1)

would never use free speech as a cloak to put Communist propaganda on the screen, but would "not yield a fraction of an inch" in fighting efforts of the present committee or any other committee to dictate to the screen, McNutt said, "We rely on the judgment of the American people."

... *and great Box Office, too!*

"John Hodiak is the most fascinating scoundrel of the year in 'LOVE FROM A STRANGER'!" —SHEILA GRAHAM

NY Papers Editorialize On Washington Hearings

New York daily newspapers editorialized yesterday about the Hollywood House Un-American Committee probe in Washington. While the Herald Tribune *and* PM *looked upon the investigation skeptically, the* Daily Mirror *commented with favor on it. Some excerpts follow:*

New York Herald Tribune—The first two days of testimony . . . produced exactly what was expected . . . an abundance of unsubstantiated charges, some dizzying new definitions of Communism and a satisfactory collection of clippings for J. Parnell Thomas' scrapbook.

To date he (Thomas) has brought forth nothing to make the whole affair seem anything more than an attempt to seek personal aggrandizement on the taxpayer's funds.

New York Daily Mirror—Hollywood is not very different from other American communities. . . . By and large it is as patriotic an American community as any other, and its citizens live decent respectable lives. But Hollywood has its . . . crackpots . . . and its Communists, like any other community. . . .

The Thomas Committee of the Congress is now investigating this sinister segment of Hollywood and of the motion picture industry. . . . The American people stand 100 per cent behind the Thomas Committee.

New York PM—The current hearings . . . could be pretty funny if they were not so genuine a threat to American freedom. The spectacle of a number of Congressmen, investigators, and Hollywood celebrities turning themselves into sleuths in an effort to track down the footprints of Karl Marx in movieland—all done under kleig-lights and with grinding cameras—is one of those macabre incidents of mild insanity that makes cultural life in America a gay and sometimes a cockeyed affair. . . .

The target is not Communism itself, which has no substantial roots in the American mind. The real objective is the muzzling of the movies.—Max Lerner.

Capital Hearings

(*Continued from page 7*)

munist espionage which it would develop next week.

Jammed spectators applauded the afternoon testimony of actor Robert Taylor, who told the committee he believed that the studio heads "would be and are more than willing to rid Hollywood of Communism." He advocated national legislation on the part of the Government which would provide a weapon to "get rid of these people" and said he had no doubt "they would be gone in very short order."

Taylor said he wished to correct a previous impression that he was "forced" into making "Song of Russia." He objected to the script, he stated, because he "thought it contained Communist propaganda," but the studio assured him that if there were any Communist propaganda in the script it would be taken out. Most of it was eliminated, he said, and "in deference to the situation as it then existed," he made the picture. Taylor denied government pressure in the making of the picture.

Screenwriter anl playwright Morrie Ryskind, also a witness, divided Communist activity in Hollywood into two sections. The first, he said, consisted of "general commie fronts for suckers." The second section was devoted to "efforts to take over the guilds and crafts."

Ryskind told the committee of his experience with a Communist front group in Hollywood and described how alleged Communists had gradually taken over control of the Screen Writers Guild, of which he was a member. He stated that in his opinion the Guild was "today completely controlled by Communists under the direction of Emmett Lavery."

Former Communist party member Howard Rushmore, now employed by the New York *Journal-American*, told the committee that the cultural committee of the Communist Party, with headquarters in New York, sent many writers out to Hollywood who were party members. "The Communists have always considered," he said, "that of all the arts the motion picture was the most important."

Rushmore said that he had never met any of the writers himself, but he remembered seeing Clifford Odets at the *Daily Worker* offices.

At the afternoon session chief committee investigator Robert Stripling read into the record a telegram from producer Sam Wood, which named Lewis Milestone as one of the directors who sought to assume control of the Screen Directors Guild for propaganda purposes. In his testimony given on Monday, Wood stated that he knew of five such directors. He named John Cromwell, Irving Pichel, Edward Dymtryk and Frank Tuttle, but could not remember the fifth.

Chairman Thomas told reporters that he expected those testifying tomorrow morning would be "strong witnesses." He announced that actors Ronald Reagan, Robert Montgomery, George Murphy and Gary Cooper would appear tomorrow, in addition to writers Oliver Carlson, Richard McCauley, Fred Niblo, Jr., and Ayn Rand.

Two Senators Back Group Subpoenaed by House Unit

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22. — Senators Claude Pepper and Glenn Taylor have given support to 19 alleged left-wing witnesses under subpoena by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Through the group's attorney, Pepper advised witnesses to refuse to testify before the committee. Witnesses should tell the committee, Pepper said. "I'm an American and it's none of your business what I say, think and write."

Taylor wired the group, congratulating them on their determination to fight "for what we in America have until recently considered inalienable rights — freedom of speech and thought." He called the committee "Fascist-minded," and said its machinations relegate the Constitution to "a scrap of paper."

MOTION PICTURE ASS'N OF AMERICA
Presents THE 2-REEL PRODUCTION

POWER BEHIND THE NATION

says: FRED WEHRENBERG
President, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America
Chairman of the Board, Theatre Owners of America

"I can't imagine any exhibitor really interested in building good-will with his community and with the groups concerned with the American spirit even hesitating to book it. Part of each film rental goes to the Damon Runyon (Cancer) Fund as a contribution by the exhibitor to this most worthy charity, which is another good reason why every theatre should show it. It has my unqualified endorsement!"

produced by
WARNER BROS.
PRINT BY TECHNICOLOR

For the Benefit of the DAMON RUNYON Memorial Fund

FILL OUT
NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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VOL. 62. NO. 81 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1947 TEN CENTS

Support Tax Revision to Cover Losses

Congressional Study Sees 5-Year 'Carry-Forward'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Immediate enactment of a five-year "carry-forward" of business losses into the Federal income tax law for both incorporated and unincorporated concerns, including motion picture firms, of course, is recommended in a study released by the Treasury Department.

The study, prepared by the tax staffs of the Department and the House-Senate Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, points out that the treatment of business losses for income tax purposes "is an important issue of general postwar tax revision, due to the vital part it plays in the year-to-year determination of net income and the avoidance of taxation

(*Continued on page 3*)

SMPE Suggests Television Pool

"If we go to work now, within two years we'll have television on the screens of theatres in key cities. In color, too!"

That was the prediction made yesterday by Paul J. Larsen, television committee chairman, on the fourth day of the semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, in suggesting that the motion picture

(*Continued on page 3*)

Ala. MPTOA Names Jackson to TOA

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 23.—Mack Jackson of Alexander City, was chosen director to the Theatre Owners of America board for the Alabama Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association at a meeting here today. Action was taken following an address by Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the TOA, New York, who outlined

(*Continued on page 3*)

Reviewed Today

"Hungry Hill" is reviewed on page 8.

UK Tax Talks Start Monday

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Conferences between Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association and B. T. Davis, CEA president, on Britain's *ad valorem* film tax will start here on Monday, following Johnston's appearance as a witness before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Both Fuller and Davis will have arrived here by plane from London by the weekend.

Meanwhile, a joint meeting between

(*Continued on page 3*)

Cripps Slips Dour Tips to Commons

LONDON, Oct. 23.—Addressing the House of Commons tonight, Sir Stafford Cripps reviewed in new detail the country's economic position, particularly regarding its dollar reserves.

It was regarded as significant that he did not refer to film imports, this being taken as an indication that the government anticipates an early accommodation of the motion picture problem.

Cripps announced a complete cessation of imports of American tobacco and still further cuts in the already scanty food ration, notably in sugar, bacon and dried eggs.

$2,470,167 39-Week Net for Universal

Universal Pictures reports that consolidated net profits of the company for the 39 weeks ended Aug. 2, aggregated $2,470,167, after all charges, including Federal taxes.

This compares with $3,206,354 for the corresponding period of the preceding year.

ITOA-Ascap Trial Set for Jan. 5

Monopoly suit of New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will go to trial in New York Federal Court on Jan. 5, probably before Judge John C. Knox.

Bringing the case to court at this date, earliest available, was by agreement between attorneys for both sides, with the plaintiff exhibitors also consenting to hold in abeyance their motion for a court order to restrain Ascap from imposing increased music performing rates.

As the matter stands now, ruling on the monopoly charge is expected before Feb. 1, at which time Ascap has announced it intends to put into effect its new rates. However, if subsequent indications point to no decision by that deadline, the ITOA is expected to press its motion to enjoin Ascap.

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 23

THE *Washington Post* fired another editorial blast today at the Un-American Activities Committee. That made it three. The biting comment of the distinguished *New York Herald Tribune* on Wednesday registered fully here. Today, the dignified *New York Times* practically voted the committee into retirement.

It is a reasonable surmise that the sensitivity of the committee is now on the upgrade. Never making the reference direct, Chairman Thomas today pointed out that his group is not worried about criticism, which "we get every hour every day along with some praise." Nevertheless, he did point it out.

•

There is a change, however fractional, in techniques. Chief Investigator Stripling was asking very leading questions earlier in the week and proving exceedingly helpful in aiding witnesses for the committee over the bumps. He continues in this same vein, but less frequently, thereby suggesting he has become more objective—occasionally anyway.

•

Hollywood actors turned in decidedly creditable accounts today. Bob Montgomery made a particularly good witness, absolved the SAG from Communist control, and voiced pride in his long association with the industry.

George Murphy and Ronald Reagan largely duplicated Montgomery's testimony. Reagan's affirmation of the workings of American democracy, in and out of Hollywood, created something of a stir.

•

Relaying Hollywood conversations he said he had heard, Gary Cooper reported that sources unidentified held

(*Continued on page 3*)

Johnston Will Testify At Probe Monday

McCarey, SAG and SWG Heads Heard Yesterday

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will be the first witness to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee on Monday, when the committee will start its sixth day of hearings on alleged un-Americanism in Hollywood. This was disclosed by the MPA here today.

Johnston is expected to review the first week's testimony, analyzing and answering some of the main points developed. He will reiterate three main points which are evolving as the "MPA line":

1. The committee has heard a lot of charges but not a single

(*Continued on page 3*)

Kearns Plans Talks With Majors' Heads

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Calling a meeting of the heads of major film companies in New York will be the next step in his attempt to effect a settlement of the studio jurisdictional dispute, Representative Carroll D. Kearns declared here today before entraining for his home in Pennsylvania.

The legislator, whose three days of conferences here with union and studio officials concluded yesterday with-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Rinzler and Cohen Head NY MPF Unit

Sam Rinzler, head of Randforce Amusement Co., Brooklyn, has been elected national trustee of the New York unit of the Motion Picture Foundation, and Max A. Cohen, head of Cinema Circuit, here, has been elected permanent chairman.

Their election completes organization of the Motion Picture Foundation in the Metropolitan area. Several weeks ago 17 local committeemen were named.

Personal Mention

SAM GOLDWYN and Mrs. Goldwyn are expected here by plane Sunday from Los Angeles.

●

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle Lion advertising-publicity director, will leave here today for Hollywood, stopping off in Chicago for sales talks with Arthur B. Krim, president; A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, and Bryan Foy, production chief.

●

Hari S. Dasgupta, producer-director from Calcutta, is here for the Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention and will visit Hollywood later.

●

Mrs. A. J. Lindsley, wife of the advertising manager of National Theatre Supply, is recuperating from a major operation at St. Luke's Hospital, here.

●

Jay Bonafield, RKO Pathe vice-president, and Mrs. Bonafield yesterday became parents of their third child, a daughter, born in Bronxville, N. Y.

●

Harry Wiener, Columbia division manager in Philadelphia, has become a grandfather with the birth of a son to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Herbert Wiener of New York.

●

C. H. Crosley, former Eagle Lion salesman in New Orleans, has joined United Artists in the same capacity in that city.

●

Norman H. Moray, Warner News president and short subject sales manager for Warners, is on the Coast from New York.

●

Louis J. Kaufman, Warner Theatres executive, is due back in New York next week from Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

●

James Caddingan, DuMont's New York television representative, is establishing a branch in the Philadelphia area.

●

E. O. Wilschke, Altec operations supervisor, is back in New York following a Middle West and Pacific Northwest tour.

●

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will return here today from Louisville.

●

Robert M. Savini, Astor Pictures president, has returned here from Hollywood.

●

David D. Horne, Monogram International assistant treasurer, has left here for a vacation.

●

Irving Kipnis, secretary of Realart Pictures, here, is convalescing at his home following an appendectomy.

●

Francis White, owner of Screen Guild, Charlotte, was a recent Atlanta visitor.

Broadway Group Out To Keep Lights on

Anxious to avoid transformation of "The Great White Way" to the "Great Dim Way," as Robert Christenberry explains it, the Broadway Association, which he heads, has asked to join with United Artists in its suit in New York's Court of Special Sessions to protest any curfew for lights on theatre marquees. The move stems from a Magistrate's Court decision ordering UA's Broadway Theatre to darken its marquee at midnight.

252 Houses Operate In Portland Area

Washington, Oct. 23. — A total seating capacity of 133,307 is represented in the 252 theatres which arc now in operation in Portland, Ore., it is reported by the Motion Picture Association in the sixth of its series of 31 territorial directories.

Of the 146 towns with theatres in the territory, 106 have a population of 2,500 each, or less. Some 52 theatres, approximately one-fifth of the territorial total, are located in Portland, the territory's largest city. Portland theatres account for a total seating capacity of 41,750.

Pepperman Named Monogram Agent

Lewis E. Pepperman has been named Monogram's representative for Trinidad, British Guiana and Barbados by Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International. He left here yesterday for Port-of-Spain, and will work with Henry Teelucksingh, Monogram distributor there.

Pepperman has been active in the business in China and Japan and was until June 1947 with Warner Brothers in Chunking, China. Previously he was general manager for United Artists in Japan.

$2,000,000 for New Ansco Film Building

Binghamton, N. Y., Oct. 23.—Construction of a new Ansco film plant, to cost $2,000,000, is announced by E. Allan Williford, Ansco general manager.

"Completion of the new plant will make possible a substantial increase in our film production, and should help alleviate the shortage of Ansco film," he said.

DeMille in K. C.

Kansas City, Oct. 23.—Cecil B. DeMille, arriving here on Sunday, will address the Advertising and Sales Executives Club Monday noon, introduced by Roy Roberts, head of the *Kansas City Star.* Gov. Carlson of Kansas will be a guest.

'Amber' Scored by Cardinal Spellman

Francis Cardinal Spellman, Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York, has issued a special message to be read at all masses in the Archdiocese on Sunday, advising that Catholics "may not see" the 20th Century-Fox film, "Forever Amber," with a "safe conscience." The picture opened at the Roxy Theatre, here, on Wednesday.

The Cardinal's letter contains the National Legion of Decency's reasons for giving the film a "C" (condemned) rating. It was the second time that the Cardinal has announced a directive against a specific film. On Nov. 26, 1941, as Archbishop, he released a similar message against "Two-Faced Woman," M-G-M film starring Greta Garbo.

'Amber' Producer Will Not Alter Film Despite Attack

Hollywood, Oct. 23.—William Perlberg, producer of 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber," which has been condemned by the Legion of Decency and by Cardinal Spellman, asserted today that he believed the film was brought to the screen in "splendid taste" and cited Joseph I. Breen, Production Code administrator, as being among several "prominent Catholic laymen" who have "congratulated me on the way the story was presented." He stressed the fact that he does not intend to change the film "to placate the Roman Catholic Church and attain a favorable rating" from the Legion.

No Action Against 'Amber' Likely: Indianapolis Mayor

Indianapolis, Oct. 23.—There is "little likelihood" of any action by Mayor George L. Denny against "Forever Amber," which opened at the Circle, here, today, the Mayor reported in reply to a complaint against the picture from Msgr. Henry F. Dugan of the Indianapolis diocese.

$25,308 for 'Amber' On Opening Day at Roxy

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" grossed $25,308 on its opening day at the Roxy Theatre, here, which figure has broken all Roxy opening-day records since the theatre first opened 20 years ago, Homer H. Harman, Roxy publicity director, reported yesterday. The "Amber" figure, Harman said, topped the opening day's figure for "The Razor's Edge" by $2,956.

Fielding Confers

New York City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding met at his office here this week with representatives of the United Parents Association "to further explore the field of children's films." Another meeting will be held shortly to expand on the recent discussion. Fielding is supporting the Motion Picture Association's "Children's Film Library."

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
FOREVER AMBER
20th Century-Fox
TECHNICOLOR
starring LINDA DARNELL · CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE · GEORGE SANDERS
ON STAGE!
Veloz and Yolanda
Extra Added Attraction
Sid Caesar
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN · Paul HENREID · Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
RITA HAYWORTH
LARRY PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
ROSE MARIE
The PITCHMEN
ADAM & JAYNE DI GATANO
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART · JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PARAMOUNT'S
"VARIETY GIRL"
starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Will do your heart good."—Hale, News
Walt Disney's
NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Screen Most Alert To Reds: DeMille

DETROIT, Oct. 23.—Hollywood generally is fighting Communism more intensely than are many other sections of the country, Cecil B. DeMille, veteran producer, told 700 members of the Adcraft Club at the Masonic Temple here today.

Admitting there are many "dangerous" Communists in Hollywood, De Mille added: "They recognize the power of motion pictures—the immense influence of the screen upon the minds of about 90,000,000 persons who watch it weekly. I wish the rest of the country were as alert to Communism as the overwhelming pro-American element in Hollywood is."

Hollywood's duty is to put the real America on the screens of the world and not the distorted "Tobacco Road" view that the Communists seek, he said.

Washington Probe

(Continued from page 1)

one has been substantiated in the form of proof that a Communist film has been made;

2. The pictures themselves are the best answers to charges, and prove that the charges are unfounded; and

3. Standing on their rights of free expression, the producers will retain the right to decide what films they will make and whom they will employ to make them.

As previous producer-witnesses have done, Johnston will reject the suggestion that the MPA serve as a "clearing house" for the political views of industry employes.

Seven Hollywoodites told the committee today that they had all seen evidences of Communist activity in Hollywood, but all except one denied that any of it had reached the screen.

In the Committee's briefest session to date—the afternoon hearing lasted only 35 minutes—director Leo McCarey declared that films in which Communist propaganda had been injected were made, but that "fortunately no film with Communist propaganda has made any money." McCarey did not name either the pictures or those who had produced them.

Small 'Red' Group in Guild

Three screen actors who have held the office of president of the Screen Actors Guild, told the committee this morning that the Guild contained only a small minority of Communists, who have never been able to control the Guild's policy.

At the same time, two Hollywood writers declared that since 1936 the Screen Writers Guild has been controlled by Communists.

Actors Robert Montgomery, George Murphy and Ronald Reagan, who were all commended by the committee for their testimony, also stated that no Communist propaganda had penetrated to the screen.

Montgomery pointed out, however, that the fact that the minority was "tiny" did not minimize its danger. Murphy, who said that he had never been called upon to "give any lines in a picture which were Communistic," told the committee that it was a mistake to look for Communist propaganda on the screen, but that we must guard against Communist infiltration. No Communist, current SAG president Reagan testified, has ever been able to use the screen "as a sounding board for his ideology." None of the actors mentioned any alleged Communists by name. Motion Picture Association co-ordinator Paul V. McNutt later called their testimony "fair and decent."

Calling the alleged Communist group in the Screen Writers Guild "the sparkplug and spearhead" of Communist infiltration in Hollywood, writer Fred Niblo, Jr., said that the SWG in August had introduced a resolution against the Un-American Activities Committee.

Writer Richard Macaulay stated that the Communist faction in the SWG consistently followed the Communist party-line and tried to intimidate non-Communist members of the Guild.

Earlier today McNutt revealed that he had met with Robert Kenny and Bartley Crum, attorneys for a group of 19 writers and directors under subpoena by the committee. Kenny and Crum proposed the meeting, he said, and came to see him, but he refused to reveal what they discussed.

May Reject Political Queries

Kenny indicated, however, that the attorneys had touched on the possibility of setting up a uniform approach to the committee's denial of the right to cross-question witnesses.

Kenny, former Attorney General of California, revealed in addition the possibility that some of his clients might refuse to answer committee questioning on their political beliefs when they take the stand next week. He also stated that, in his opinion, the statement issued yesterday morning by McNutt, in which the MPA counsel stated that he was shocked at the committee's conduct of the hearing yesterday morning, repeated the tone of statements issued previously by him and Crum. Referring to McNutt's statement, he said, "it was a beaut."

Gary Cooper, first witness at the brief afternoon hearing, told the committee that he had turned down quite a few scripts because he "thought they were tinged with Communist ideas." Under repeated questioning, Cooper said that he could not remember the titles of any of the scripts. He said he had no personal experience with Communists in Hollywood.

Present among the spectators during the afternoon hearings was a group of members of the "Committe for the First Amendment of the Constitution," formed two weeks ago in Hollywood. John Garfield and Julius and Phillip Epstein, who were with the group, told reporters that representatives from Hollywood would appear at the hearings every day to try to "help defend the 19 subpoenaed not allowed to defend themselves.

Tomorrow's witnesses will be Mrs. Lela Rogers, mother of actress Ginger Rogers; Roy E. Brewer, Hollywood vice-president of the IATSE; and producer Walt Disney.

Did Not Hold McGuinness Favors Censorship: McNutt

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23. — Motion Picture Association counsel Paul V. McNutt said today that in his statement yesterday on freedom of the screen he "had no intention to indicate in any way" that M-G-M production executive James K. McGuinness might favor censorship.

McNutt said that McGuinness had made his position unmistakably clear when he told the House Un-American Activities Committee that he was "opposed to any form of censorship of the screen," and that he thought "the screen should be free to say anything it wants to say."

SDG Protests Wood's 'Red' Activity Testimony

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., Oct. 23.—The board of directors of the Screen Directors Guild yesterday telegraphed Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives, and J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, a denial of testimony presented Monday to the committee by Sam Wood that Communist directors had attempted to dominate the Guild.

Washington Ringside

(Continued from page 1)

the opinion the Government might be more effective without a Congress. The audience laughed. The committee was not amused.

•

Cooper was less at ease than the others. But he registered a salient point in reply to the standard question if anti-Communist films ought to be produced. "It's better to make more films that emphasize Americanism and to re-sell what we have under that system," he said.

•

Stripling: "How did 'Going My Way' and 'The Bells of St. Mary's' go in Russia?"

Leo McCarey: "We never got a ruble. I guess the pictures had a character the Russians didn't like."

Stripling: "Bing Crosby?"

McCarey: "No, God."

Tax Revision

(Continued from page 1)

of capital as income, together with its basic role in the averaging of taxable income over a period of years."

Some conclusions of the study follow: Although there are exceptions, generally a "carry-forward" is more desirable than a "carry-back," "both in its economic effects and in the equity of the adjustment"; the length of "carry-forward" should be limited primarily by administrative considerations; the change from the present system to a five-year carry-forward should be made as promptly as is feasible.

The present law provides for a two-year "carry-forward" for losses of 1939 and subsequent years, a one year "carry-back" for 1942 losses, and a two year "carry-back" for losses of 1943 and subsequent years.

The study finds that the "carry-forward" is superior to the "carry-back" in stimulating the entry of new business enterprises, and administratively is generally less difficult to handle.

Ala. Names Jackson

(Continued from page 1)

the program of the national association and pleaded for unity within the industry.

Coyne declared, "We must move for relief against unfair and discriminatory taxation" and must "equip ourselves to fight all repressive legislation affecting our business. And we must study and solve the problem presented by the newly announced extortionate ASCAP rate.

"We must," Coyne continued, "study industry problems and advise with other industry branches on matters affecting us all." "We must," he went on, "be prepared to adjust exhibition to what may be an entirely new set of rules when the U. S. Supreme Court hands down its decision in the New York case." Concluding, he said, "We must stop public fights within our industry."

French Film Costs Skyrocketed: Clair

Production costs in France are about 12 times as much as before the war, Rene Clair, French producer-director, said in an interview here yesterday at RKO Radio's home office. He pointed out, however, that admission prices have gone up about four times the pre-war level, and also that more people now go to film houses. Nonetheless, he said, serious economy troubles are affecting production.

Turning to the new narration device used in his "Man About Town," which opened in New York this week, Clair indicated that it may open up new market possibilities for foreign films. In the film, the story development is explained in English in an off-stage voice.

Contrasting production methods here and in France, Clair said the producer in this country "is offered wider scope in technical facilities but his artistic field is narrower."

UK Tax Talks

(Continued from page 1)

MPA's executive committee and top Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers was set today for Thursday.

Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, will leave here tomorrow for New York en route to Chicago for several board meetings. He testified here today before the Senate War Investigating Committee on its hearings into industrial mobilization on his experience as head of the War Production Board.

SMPE on Television

(Continued from page 1)

industry, right now, "put a technological group to work and pool the results of research," with SMPE engineers.

During the television session of yesterday's meeting of the SMPE, held mostly at Hotel Pennsylvania, here, RCA demonstrated theatre television.

Larsen said his committee had asked the Motion Picture Association to set up a producer-distributor-exhibitor committee to work with the engineers. "The engineers urged cooperation of all companies involved because standardization is essential," said the SMPE, adding: "He expressed his keen disappointment that the Society's proposal had been turned down."

Paramount, Warner Brothers, and 20th Century-Fox are already experimenting with theatre television, said Larsen, and RKO Radio, Loew's and Republic have expressed an interest in such a project.

Banshees Honor Disney

Mickey Mouse being 20 years of age, the Banshees took the occasion to honor the cartoon rodent's creator, Walt Disney, at a Waldorf-Astoria luncheon here yesterday with several hundreds of films, radio, stage, sports and press joining in the tribute.

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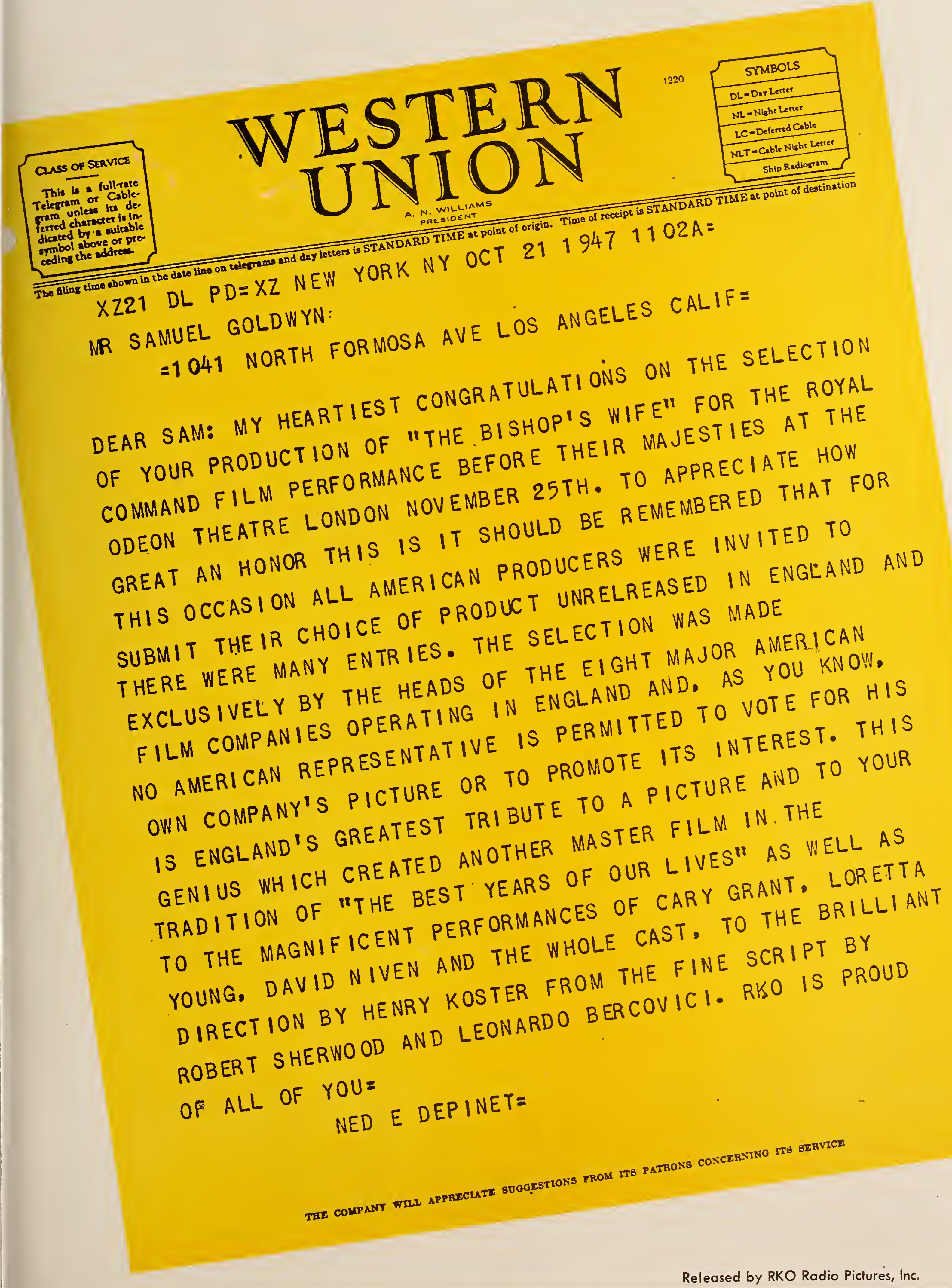

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MR SAMUEL GOLDWYN:
=1041 NORTH FORMOSA AVE LOS ANGELES CALIF=

DEAR SAM: MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SELECTION OF YOUR PRODUCTION OF "THE BISHOP'S WIFE" FOR THE ROYAL COMMAND FILM PERFORMANCE BEFORE THEIR MAJESTIES AT THE ODEON THEATRE LONDON NOVEMBER 25TH. TO APPRECIATE HOW GREAT AN HONOR THIS IS IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT FOR THIS OCCASION ALL AMERICAN PRODUCERS WERE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR CHOICE OF PRODUCT UNRELREASED IN ENGLAND AND THERE WERE MANY ENTRIES. THE SELECTION WAS MADE EXCLUSIVELY BY THE HEADS OF THE EIGHT MAJOR AMERICAN FILM COMPANIES OPERATING IN ENGLAND AND, AS YOU KNOW, NO AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE IS PERMITTED TO VOTE FOR HIS OWN COMPANY'S PICTURE OR TO PROMOTE ITS INTEREST. THIS IS ENGLAND'S GREATEST TRIBUTE TO A PICTURE AND TO YOUR GENIUS WHICH CREATED ANOTHER MASTER FILM IN THE TRADITION OF "THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES" AS WELL AS TO THE MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCES OF CARY GRANT, LORETTA YOUNG, DAVID NIVEN AND THE WHOLE CAST, TO THE BRILLIANT DIRECTION BY HENRY KOSTER FROM THE FINE SCRIPT BY ROBERT SHERWOOD AND LEONARDO BERCOVICI. RKO IS PROUD OF ALL OF YOU=

NED E DEPINET=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

16 Independents in New Drive-in Circuit

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 23.—Some 16 independent theatre owners in the Twin Cities area have organized Minnesota Entertainment Enterprises, Inc., a $1,000,000 concern to engage in all branches of the amusement and entertainment business, and, specifically, to construct and operate a number of large drive-in theatres in the area, it was announced by Benedict Deinard, Minneapolis attorney for the group.

Deinard disclosed that plans for the construction of the contemplated drive-ins are under way and that a number of those projects will be commenced immediately. The drive-ins will each have a capacity of 1,000 automobiles, and will serve Minneapolis, St. Paul, and their suburbs.

The new company may extend its activities into other branches of the amusement fields at a later date, Deinard said, adding that such plans had not progressed to the point where formal announcement could be made covering such activities.

Organizers of the new company are: W. R. Frank, Franklin Amusement Co.; Benjamin Berger, Berger Amusement Co.; Harold D. Field, St. Louis Park Theatre Co.; Sol Fischer, Campus Theatre Corp.; Howard S. Dale, Twin City Theatres Corp.; Edmond R. Ruben, Welworth Enterprises; Henry J. Greene, Lake Amusement Co.; Ted Mann, Northwest Theatres, Inc.; Mrs. Mary E. Guernsey, East Lake Theatre; Benjamin Friedman, Edina Theatre Corp.; Sidney Volk, Volk Brothers Circuit; Charles Rubenstein, Rubenstein and Kaplan; George W. Granstrom, Highland Theatre Corp.; Dolores R. Lundquist, Parkway Theatre; M. I. Silberstein, White Bear Theatre, White Bear, Minn; Lyman O. Lee, Leola Theatre, and Paul Mans, Mans and O'Reilly Amusement Co.

Bloomington Council Passes Theatre Tax

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—With only a few days notice to theatre operators, the Bloomington, Ill., city council has passed a four per cent theatre tax. According to Morris Leonard, attorney for Publix-Great States, which operates two of three theatres there, the tax was passed to meet wage demands of municipal workers. The circuit, said Leonard, is considering the possibility of closing the two houses.

Wins Tax Victory

MILLERSBURG, O., Oct. 23. — Upon presentation of facts showing discrimination and hardship of the three per cent local amusement tax, by Hoy L. Russell, owner of the Russell Theatre, the city council, by unanimous vote, rescinded the tax ordinance passed six days previously.

Two Theatres Destroyed

Fire has destroyed two theatres, the Coulee Dam Theatre, at Coulee Dam, Wash., and the Liberty, Walnut Grove, Miss., according to reports reaching here. Damage to the Coulee Dam, operated by O. R. Hartman, was estimated at $25,000.

Eagle Will Produce

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Producer S. P. Eagle has secured a release from his U-I contract to join John Huston in an independent production venture.

Review

"Hungry Hill"

(Prestige—Universal-International)

ONCE again Margaret Lockwood is cast in a J. Arthur Rank production as a headstrong woman of wicked fascination. It is a murky, incident-crowded film, spanning three generations, allowing Miss Lockwood to go from youth to middle age, and on to dissipated years.

The story, based on a novel by Daphne Du Maurier, grows confusing at times, as it tells of a long feud between two families in Ireland, the Brodericks and the Donovans, during the past century. When rich John Broderick (Cecil Parker) buys land on Hungry Hill and sinks mine shafts there, a curse is put on the land by the head of the Donovan clan (Arthur Sinclair). As the mine is developed a series of feuds break out, lasting for some 50 years, and resulting in many deaths. Meanwhile, Miss Lockwood, who has married into the Broderick clan, loses her husband and sees her son sacrificed to the feud. Another son who has now inherited the estate, does not get along too well with his mother, and so Miss Lockwood goes to England, to sink into the decay of gambling and drug addiction. By the time the film chugs to its conclusion, some more deaths occur, but finally peace comes to Hungry Hill through the sacrifice of the now old and lonely Miss Lockwood.

To the film's credit is its fine photography and feeling for visual detail. But the story, from a screenplay by Terence Young and Miss Du Maurier, gets on sluggishly and fails to have its characterizations spring believably to life. Brian Desmond Hurst directed.

In reviewing this Two Cities Film from London in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Jan. 27, 1947, Peter Burnup said it "may not rate the esteem which certain of its immediate predecessors earned, but nevertheless, by reason of its star appeal and the impeccable playing of its supporting cast, it will gather good money. . . ."

Running time, 92 minutes. Adult audience classificaiton. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Second Meeting of Columbia Oct.28-31

Columbia home office executives and sales personnel will leave New York over the weekend for New Orleans where the second of three sales meetings has been scheduled for the Roosevelt Hotel on Oct. 28-31. A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside. Also attending the sessions will be division managers, branch managers, salesmen and head bookers from Atlanta, Charlotte, New Orleans, Dallas, Memphis and Oklahoma City.

Heading the delegation from New York, besides Montague, will be Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Irving Wormser, Maurice Grad, George Joseph, and H. C. Kaufman.

This is the second of three Columbia sales sessions, the first having been held in the Hotel Warwick, New York, last week, and another will take place at the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, Nov. 4-8.

Housing Office Cuts More Building

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The office of the Housing Expediter has approved 10 theatre construction applications, totaling $549,225, but rejected applications for 33 projects that would have cost $1,410,080.

To Show French Films

TORONTO, Oct. 23. — The name of the Figaro Theatre, which was opened in Hull early this year, has been changed to Cinema de Paris and the policy will be the showing of films from France.

Clark Dies at 82

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 23.—John Empey Clark, 82, veteran theatreman in Utah, died at his home here Monday after a stroke. Clark was originally manager of the old Cameraphone and old Mission theatres.

OHE Approves 13 Theatre Projects

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23. — Continuing to handle an exceptionally large volume of applications for theatre construction, the Office of the Housing Expediter has approved 13 applications, valued at $711,374, and denied 25 applications for construction which would have cost $1,527,089.

During the previous week, the expeditor approved 20 projects, to cost over $1,000,000, and denied 55, estimated at $2,472,913.

Since the present Housing Law went into effect, last July 1, the expediter has approved 211 theatre projects, to cost $7,477,378, and denied 532 applications for theatre work estimated at $24,668,163.

Kearns Plans Talks

(Continued from page 1)

out a solution, added: "I am not discouraged, and I am not going to give up because too many people are affected by this strike for anyone to leave undone anything which might make a settlement possible."

He said, furthermore, that he expects to hold discussions with Carpenters Union president William D. Hutcheson, who was represented at the conferences this week by his son, and possibly with other heads of disputant unions before assembling the company heads for the meeting.

Earlier, Kearns placed responsibility for the present strike at the door of AFL president William Green and the three-man committee appointed by him to draft the directive which terminated the 1945 strike. Kearns said the committee's original directive was drawn without proper investigation of studio conditions, and the subsequent clarification by the committee was even more disastrous, creating a condition in which it is now impossible to produce a settlement due to the "necessity for each union to save face."

Expanded Film Ad Campaigns Urged

Film companies could increase box-office returns if they would direct their advertising more toward establishing "continuity of impression" through long-term campaigns, and if they also used more "institutional overtones" in ads. These opinions were expressed yesterday by Alfred Seaman, executive of the Compton Advertising Agency, in an address before a luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers held at the Town Hall Club, here.

Phil Williams, AMPA vice-president presided at the meeting which also heard advertising talks by George Trimble of Fuller-Smith-Ross Advertising Agency, and Bernard Finn of The Merchandising Group.

Arnold Stoltz, AMPA president, announced that the next luncheon-meeting, slated for Nov. 20, will be devoted to discussions of the foreign film market, under the chairmanship of Loew's-International publicity director David Blum. Stoltz said the AMPA Christmas party has been set for Dec. 18.

SAG to File for Union Shop Test

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Following a virtually unanimous vote by its members, Screen Actors Guild on Monday will file a petition for a National Labor Relations Board election to prove that a majority of the Guild members desire a union shop. The action will be the first of its kind since passage of the Taft-Hartley Law, and is expected to assure for SAG continuation of the terms of its present producer contract, which runs until August next year. Under the contract, any person who obtains acting work in pictures is entitled to, and must, join SAG.

Deletion of Role Taken Up by SAG

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Acting on a request from Paulette Goddard, who in a press statement declared herself "most perturbed over the recent deletion of the character 'Jerry' from the script of my new picture 'Hazard' merely because he is a Negro who is portrayed in a sympathetic role," representatives of the Screen Actors Guild yesterday discussed the matter with Paramount officials, with undisclosed results.

The incident is the first of its kind referred to the SAG since its recent agreement with producers regarding employment of Negro actors.

Coast Labor Trial in Nov.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—California Supreme Court today denied a hearing to Herbert K. Sorrell, Conference of Studio Unions head, and eight other who sought to have set aside an indictment charging them with conspiracy in connection with last year's mass picketing of film studios. Trial is set for November.

Franklin in Deal

Irwin Franklin has been named distribution representative in the Chicago area for French-language product of Distinguished Films. Territory covered includes Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Missouri.

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Johnston Bids For Revised Probe Method

Cites Hearing 'Slanders' In a Letter to Solons

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has appealed for a thorough revision of Congressional committees' investigating procedures, in a letter sent to the Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the majority and minority leaders of Senate and House.

"In my opinion," Johnston's letter states, "the broad power of Congress to investigate is among the great essentials of the public welfare. In no other way can corruption be so effectively exposed or facts so adequately marshaled as a basis for needful legislation. No thinking person would question the right of the Congress to investigate.

"I merely raise here the serious question of evils inherent in the existing procedure of investigating committees.

"Too often," Johnston continued, "individuals and institutions have been

(*Continued on page 3*)

Only 22 Situations Use 20th Formula

Despite the fact that 20th Century-Fox's formula to aid small-town theatres and sub-subsequent runs in large cities continues to receive only meager acceptance, the company has no plans to abandon the program, Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager,

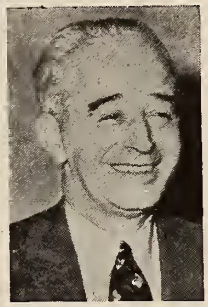
(*Continued on page 4*)

Eire Ticket Tax Rise Is from 75 to 150%

Dublin, Oct. 20 (By Airmail).—Under the new Eire tax scale, which goes into effect on Jan. 1, the tax on eight-cent admissions will be six cents; on 16 cents, 16 cents; on 30 cents, 32 cents; on 40 cents, 60 cents; and on 60 cents, 90 cents.

The rise approximates an increase running between 75 and 150 per cent.

Theatre Knows Best The Proper Price To Charge: Rodgers



William F. Rodgers

Asserting that the exhibitor "knows best the proper admission prices to charge" for an outstanding production, William F. Rodgers, Loew vice-president and general sales manager, announced on Friday that "Green Dolphin Street" will not be sold at advanced admission prices.

Rodgers' statement, however, hardly could be taken as a condemnation of advanced admission price sales policies inasmuch as he stated the decision concerned only the one picture and, under questioning, said that M-G-M

(*Continued on page 4*)

Si Fabian Will Head Federation Drive

S. H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, will be chairman of the amusement division of the 1947 fund raising drive of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, it was announced here over the weekend after a meeting attended by Fabian, Barney Balaban and Leonard Goldenson, respective Paramount president and vice-president; Malcolm Kingsburg, president of RKO Theatres and last year's drive chairman, and Judge Joseph Proskauer, a director of the Federation.

Motion pictures, radio, night clubs, legitimate theatres and vending and accessory companies all come under

(*Continued on page 2*)

Skouras Comments On 'Amber' Ban

Commenting on the position taken by the Legion of Decency in regard to "Forever Amber," Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, producers of the picture, said at the weekend that he "must disagree very firmly with and protest as unfair and harsh the position taken by the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Johnston, Fuller, Davis Meet Wed.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Meeting between Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and British Cinematographic Exhibitors Association representatives B. T. Davis and W. R. Fuller, originally scheduled for tomorrow, has been postponed until Wednesday, MPA has announced.

Johnston must leave Washington for Chicago immediately after his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee tomorrow morning, MPA said. He will attend several board meetings in Chicago.

The meeting of the MPA executive committee and top officials of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers to discuss the British tax situation is still set for Thursday, according to the MPA.

Fuller Trip Charges Bewilder London

LONDON, Oct. 26.—Both governmental and industry quarters here express bewilderment over cabled reports that the view is current in some New York circles that the mission to the U. S. of Cinematograph Exhibitors Association executives W. R. Fuller and B. T. Davis is a maneuver planned by the British Labor Party to excite American sympathy and thereby bring about an American adjustment of some of Britain's dollar difficulties.

The Fuller-Davis conferences on the British *ad valorem* tax with Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston in Washington, it is pointed out, have the blessing of British conservatives as well as of Labor Party cabinet ministers.

Hold Distributors Delay MPF Meeting

Fact that distributors have not yet designated trustees-at-large in the Motion Picture Foundation, was said at the weekend to be principally responsible for delay in setting a time and place for the Foundation's national trustees' convention. Some time ago the convention was scheduled tentatively for this month, but it now appears likely that it will not be held until late next month.

Although the companies have been urged repeatedly by the MPF to appoint trustees-at-large, of which there will be 10, they have not acted in this respect, according to Foundation sources.

Claims TOA Is Represented In 33 States

No Objection to 10-Cent Seat Assessment: Gamble

Individual exhibitor organizations in 33 states (counting the District of Columbia as one) are in the membership of the Theatre Owners of America, according to Ted R. Gamble, president, and Robert W. Coyne, executive director.

A large number of these actually have yet to formally affiliate with TOA in the form of ratification at meetings although such affiliation is regarded as a foregone conclusion since their delegates to the TOA organizational convention voted approval.

Actual units aligned with the TOA total 38 in number, a few of the 33 states having more than one organization, Coyne pointed out.

On the basis of these figures, Gam-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Loew, Einfeld in on Enterprise Plans

David Loew and Charles Einfeld are scheduled to arrive in New York today from the Coast by plane for conferences with George J. Schaefer on sales plans for the next three releases from Enterprise and to consider distribution plans for the company's seven productions for 1948.

Enterprise will have completed its current distribution contract with United Artists upon delivery to the latter in the near future of "Arch of

(*Continued on page 2*)

German Eagle Lion Formed in Hamburg

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Oct. 21 (By Airmail).—British film interests have entered the German market with the declared purpose of competing with American productions. In Hamburg, the "German Branch of Eagle Lion Distributors, Ltd." has just been formed with J.

(*Continued on page 2*)

Reviewed Today

"Killer McCoy" is reviewed on page 4.

Personal Mention

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president and Harold Mirisch, AA vice-president, left Hollywood at the weekend, the latter for New York and Broidy for Washington for a conference with Eric Johnston, MPA head.

•

Maurice N. Wolf, assistant to H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will address the Rotary clubs of Alton, Ill., and Hannibal, Mo., respectively, today and tomorrow.

•

Dorothy Latta, daughter of C. J. Latta, Warner Theatres Albany, N. Y., zone manager, and Mrs. Latta, has been married to Terry O'Neil in Hollywood.

•

Sid Deneau, assistant to Selznick Releasing Organization vice-president Milton Kusell, has returned to New York from sales conferences in Boston and Philadelphia.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic general sales manager, and Walter L. Titus, Jr., Southern division manager, left here yesterday for Atlanta, first stop on a Southern tour.

•

Albert S. Howson, Warner scenario and censorship editor, and Mrs. Howson celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary Saturday.

•

Burtus Bishop, Jr., M-G-M Midwestern sales manager, left here at the weekend for his Chicago headquarters.

•

Louis Astor, Columbia circuit sales executive, left here yesterday for Denver and will be in San Francisco next week.

•

Haskell M. Masters, Warner Canadian district manager, is due here today from Toronto.

•

Jack Ellis, United Artists New York district manager, is due back in town today from Albany, N. Y.

•

Sid Rogell, RKO Radio executive producer, left here over the weekend for the Coast.

•

Joseph J. Deitch, Paramount Theatres Service executive, is visiting Phoenix and Salt Lake City.

•

Clarence Brown arrived here from Hollywood over the weekend.

USO Honors Lastfogel

Abe Lastfogel, president of USO Camp Shows, Inc. and treasurer and general manager of the William Morris Agency, was among 11 civilians honored at a Waldorf-Astoria luncheon here for "distinguished volunteer wartime service." The luncheon was given by the national agencies which made up the United Service Organizations.

Loss of Swedish Market Apparent

While foreign department executives of film companies here said at the weekend that they had received no official report from Stockholm, they were not inclined to discount a cabled news dispatch disclosing that the Swedish government had announced that purchases of American films are to be halted.

German Eagle-Lion

(*Continued from page* 1)

Arthur Rank as chairman. The organization will take over distribution of British films here.

No fewer than 60 British films will be distributed by Eagle Lion in Germany before the year is out. Also, Eagle Lion plans to handle exports of German-made, British-licensed pictures. Profits on these will be used for the purchase of much-needed raw material for the British-licensed film industry in Germany.

The German press contends that Rank is one of Hollywood's chief competitors and further asserts that because of his influence England had 140 less American films in 1947 than in 1945.

Simultaneous with the organization of the Eagle Lion German firm, the Inter-Allied Control Commisssion announced that barriers between the American and British zones have been lifted for free distribution of British and American product. The commission added that German and foreign monopoly concerns are enjoined from interfering with production, distribution or exhibition in any way detrimental to free competition in the combined zone.

Field in Production Abroad for M-G-M

Arthur L. Field has been placed in charge of Continental European production for M-G-M to supervise the company's synchronization studios in Paris, Barcelona and Rome, and to have administrative supervision over production activities of Metro News in England and the Continent.

Prior to the war he was a home office representative for M-G-M on the Continent, and thereafter was a producer for M-G-M in California.

Seattle Proposes Banning Drive-Ins

Seattle, Oct. 26.—A proposal that the City Council consider prohibiting entirely any future construction of drive-in theatres, rather than merely forbidding them in certain property zones, has been advanced by the City Planning Commission. Commission chairman Clyde Grainger would enlarge the recent ban of drive-ins in residential and business zones, to include also sizable land areas in commercial, manufacturing, and industrial districts.

Rechetnik Promoted By WB's Blumenstock

Sid Rechetnik has been promoted to the post of exhibitor and trade press contact of Warner Brothers, at the home office, by Mort Blumenstock, advertising-publicity vice-president. In addition, Rechetnik will be in charge of publicity for Warner Pathe News and short subjects, all under the supervision of Larry Golob, Eastern publicity director. Rechetnik's duties will include contact with the company's distribution department, as liaison between sales, exhibitors and trade press. He has been with Warner since 1926, and will assume his new duties next Monday.

Don Gillette, who has handled the Warner trade press post since 1941, has been granted an extended leave of absence to enable him to write a novel.

Production in Italy Is Up 40 Per Cent

Production in Italy has gone up 40 to 50 per cent, Emil Lustig, vice-president of Westport-International, film importers, reported here Friday following his return from France, Italy and Czechoslovakia.

The upswing was attributed by Lustig mainly to low costs there.

France, Lustig said, has lost about 50 per cent of the European market. Labor difficulties and electricity shortages are among major production headaches. Lustig, while abroad, made arrangements to distribute seven films here.

Fabian Heads Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

the jurisdiction of the amusement division. A meeting will be held soon to designate a committee comprising members of these branches to assist Fabian, who, during the war was exhibitor chairman of the War Activities Committee.

The Federation maintains 116 institutions and agencies, including hospitals, child care agencies, community centers, settlement houses, family welfare counseling, vocational agencies and employment and vocational services. Each year, through the money raised in its drives, the Federation meets medical and welfare needs of 350,000 persons.

Dudley Digges, 68

Funeral services will be held tomorrow morning at the Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, here, for Dudley Digges, 68, screen and stage actor, who died here Friday. He is survived by a sister-in-law of this city, and a sister and two brothers in Ireland. Burial will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Mount Pleasant, N. Y.

Services for LaReaux

Jack LaReaux, 69, district manager of Century's Huntington, L. I., theatres for the past 21 years, died Thursday at Huntington Hospital, and services were held Saturday at Central Presbyterian Church in Huntington. LaReaux is survived by the widow, Emma, and two sons.

Newsreel Parade

THE probe of Communists in the film industry again is a featured highlight in all newsreels. Also included are scenes of New England forest fires, a jet flying-wing, and sporting events. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 17—Hollywood stars testify on Reds in Congress probe. Worst forest fires in Maine's history. Flying-wing jet bomber. U. S. Air Force tests new glider tow-bar. U. S. Navy reveals tests on anniversary.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 215—Washington film drama with an all-star cast. De Gaulle wins election. Fires raze U. S. forests. Rocket opens new navy area.

PARAMOUNT, No. 18—New England fights flames. New tow-bar for gliders. V-2 fired from deck of carrier. Stars attract crowds at Washington hearings.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 85—New methods of warfare revealed for Navy Day. Hollywood stars testify at Un-American Committee hearing. Forest fires rage through Maine. Jet flying wing on maiden flight. Two-bar glider demonstrated at Dayton. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 20—Stars testify in Red probe. Fires ravage Northeast. Navy unveils new weapons. Cairo fights cholera. Steeplechase spills.

Loew, Einfeld Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

Triumph." Although UA reportedly has made overtures to Enterprise for a renewal of the present one-year deal, no formal conferences have been held yet.

Enterprise has set no budget on its seven productions for next year but while cognizant of the need for production economies, plans for all seven are being made on a high quality basis, a company official said.

Topping the new season list will be Lion Feuchtwanger's "Proud Destiny," to be produced and directed by Lewis Milestone, which Enterprise is planning as a special. Also on the list is the already completed "They Passed This Way," with Joel McCrea, Frances Dee and Charles Bickford; "Wild Calendar," scheduled for production next month by Wolfgang Reinhardt, and starring Ginger Rogers.

Also, "Cairo Incident," starring Charles Boyer; "Pursuit of Love," based on the British best-seller by Nancy Mitford; a John Garfield starring vehicle, and a Barbara Stanwyck starring vehicle, which Milestone will also produce.

Loew and Einfeld will discuss sales plans with Schaefer here for "Body and Soul," "So This Is New York" and "Arch of Triumph," all of which are included in the current year's contract with UA.

More Time for Para. To File in Chicago

Chicago, Oct. 26.—Paramount and Balaban and Katz have been granted an extension for filing of their brief aiming to strike out an anti-trust complaint by the De Luxe Theatre here. New date for the hearing is Nov. 6.

Rathvon on Checkup

Hollywood, Oct. 26.—N. Peter Rathvon, president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, has entered Cedars of Lebanon Hospital for a checkup.

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Witness Says Film Probe Was 'Overdue'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Calling the current House Un-American Activities Committee investigation of alleged Communist influences in Hollywood "not only justified but long overdue," Oliver Carlson, University of California teacher told the committee at the weekend that he thought the producers were wrong in their charges against the committee.

Carlson's opinion referred to Motion Pi[illegible] Association co-ordinator-counsel Paul V. McNutt's charge that the committee was trying to dictate through the hearings what went on the screens of America.

Carlson said further that in his opinion the producers were "panicky" and therefore have been frightened into issuing "ludicrous statements."

In a statement to the committee, McNutt declared: "We have said that when the free screen was singled out first for attacks on its rights of freedom of expression, then the press, the radio and other instruments of communications would not be immune."

McNutt referred to statements by Carlson, in which he spoke of the declining influence of newspapers and newspaper editorials.

McNutt Cites Newsreels

Carlson's remarks were cut off by committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas, who declared sharply that they were "too far afield."

"We believe in free speech," McNutt's statement continued, "and we practice what we preach. As evidence of the fairness of the newsreels, Chairman Thomas and Eric Johnston both appeared in the same newsreel on the hearings."

Monday's witnesses, in addition to Johnston, will be Roy Brewer, Hollywood vice-president of IATSE, and writers John Howard Lawson, Dalton Trumbo, Emmett Lavery and Alvah Bessie.

Observers expect fireworks when the four writers take the stand. All four have been mentioned by one or more previous witnesses as alleged Communists, although in most cases witnesses have documented their allegations with the statement: "I have heard that he is a Communist." Committee members have stated each witness will be asked point blank if he is a Communist. Attorneys for the four, Robert Kenny and Bartley C. Crum, have advised their clients not to answer the question.

If the witnesses refuse to answer the question concerning their political beliefs, there is a strong likelihood the committee will cite them for contempt, thus paving the way for court proceedings against the witnesses.

Friday afternoon, Walt Disney appeared in a room where for the first time, many press and spectator seats were empty. He told the committee he thought there was a Communist "threat" in the industry but that he didn't think it had "gone very far."

He stated that at the time when he decided to hold an election to determine if his "boys" wished to affiliate with the Conference of Studio Unions Communists in his employ had been active.

Disney Recalls Strike

Herbert K. Sorrell called a strike against him at the time, Disney said, and he was subsequently "smeared" by "Commie front groups." Disney said he thought Sorrell was a Communist.

Mrs. Lela E. Rogers, mother of actress Ginger Rogers, told the three committee members present at Friday's session that she and her daughter had "many times" objected to scripts because they felt scripts contained lines which could be construed as Communist propaganda.

She declared the percentage of Communists in the Screen Actors Guild was "very small, but is getting larger." Communists were in key positions in Hollywood, she alleged, and had "the confidence of the producers."

Mrs. Rogers said she regarded RKO's Radio's "None But the Lonely Heart" as being a vehicle for Communist propaganda.

Meanwhile, the 19 "unfriendly" witnesses under fire by the committee for alleged "subversive propaganda" disclosed that a "second wave" of big-name Hollywoodites would drift in all next week to hold press conferences, hold receptions, and otherwise propagandize against the committee.

Congressman Clears Producers 100%

Washington, Oct. 26.—"I would clear 100 per cent of the producers in Hollywood of any attempt to put Communist propaganda on the screen," Representative John McDowell (Rep., Pa.) declared here. McDowell is a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Rumanian Newspaper Asks Ban on Taylor's Films

BUCHAREST, Oct. 26.—In deference to what it termed "elementary decency toward the sentiments of Rumanian public opinion," the Rumanian newspaper *Libera* has called for the banning of all films starring Robert Taylor for his testimony against Communism before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The prohibition should be invoked at once, the paper continued, "until we can make a final regulation concerning the presence in this country of a 'fifth column' of imperialists who are aided by American motion pictures."

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 26

AT the opening of its held-over run, the House Un-American Activities Committee faces this situation:

The organized industry, feeling its way just a week ago today, no longer is. The strategy, determined well ahead of the investigation, was to take a firm position on the guaranteed right of free speech. But it had been decided as part of the strategy first to observe the road along which the probe traveled.

•

Concerned over critical editorial comment of the influential *Washington Post,* it has been reported earlier how the organized industry thereafter was heartened by the devastation heaped upon J. Parnell Thomas and his investigating Congressmen by the *New York Herald Tribune*. The subsequent condemnation of the committee by the *New York Times* served as reaffirmation.

•

This may be said to have been the point at which industry policy-makers, headed by Paul V. McNutt, with effective assists, determined to become forthright. Thus, when Chairman Thomas's questioning of James K. McGuinness, M-G-M studio executive, indicated the committee itself might be fairly accused of attempting the thought control of film content which it charges to alleged Communists and sympathizers in Hollywood, McNutt struck back. He made the accusation, not before the committee where he has no standing, but through the press.

•

This marked the juncture, as well, where the common interest of press and radio in the right of free speech was joined with that of motion pictures. McNutt took to the radio to tell the nation that the industry intended to protect this guarantee to the full limit of its strength.

•

He was decidedly forthright. "It doesn't require a law to cripple the right of free speech. Intimidation and coercion will do it. Fear will do it," he said. "The industry cannot be a free medium of expression if it must live in fear of the damning epithet 'un-American' whenever it elects to introduce a new idea, produce a picture critical of the *status quo* or point up through a picture some phase of our way of life which needs improving."

•

There is a policy statement of immeasurable significance, defining a right well worth the fighting. Producers hereafter may never seek to exercise it. But their privilege to do so, contained within the responsibility which they accept for the product they make, must remain unchallenged.

Johnston Bids

(*Continued from page* 1)

condemned without a hearing or a chance to speak in self-defense; slandered and libeled by hostile witnesses not subject to cross-examination and immune from subsequent suit or prosecution. Legal counsel cannot be heard except at the committee's pleasure. Too often this protection is limited to advice on constitutional rights. The committee can accept or reject explanatory statements for the record.

"Today, the motion picture industry, a part of which I represent, is under investigation by the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives. Its procedure, good and bad, is the common practice of all investigating committees. The present investigation serves to emphasize my thinking on the need for reform.

"With no vested right to be heard and no vested right to challenge accusations against him, the innocent citizen is helpless. He can be indicted and convicted in the public mind on the unchallenged say-so of a witness who may be completely sincere, but can be either misinformed or riddled with prejudice.

"I do not suggest that investigating committees adopt and pursue the procedure of the courts. We cannot expect the identical procedure of a court of law to accomplish the purposes of a Congressional investigation," Johnston said.

"I am suggesting only that there are too many weaknesses and evils in present procedure," his letter states. "I am proposing a fresh look as a basis for reform. Besides the right of the individual, there is another vital factor. Whenever a Congressional

(*Continued on page* 4)

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Skouras on 'Amber'

(*Continued from page* 1)

Legion of Decency that 'Forever Amber' is 'a glorification of immorality and licentiousness'. Much as I respect the objectives of this worthy organization, to which this company always has given its zealous cooperation," he said, "I am compelled to state that I believe it has erred in taking an extreme stand in this instance and that the final verdict must come from the public."

Skouras then stated his company's record in "upholding the Production Code of the Motion Picture Association and in pressing for its all-around observance," and referred to 20th-Fox's "record in pioneering pictures on wholesome and advanced subjects."

He pointed out that the PCA and various state censor boards have approved "Amber."

Skouras contended that the film is a "sincere portrayal of the unattractive consequences of reckless personal conduct. 'Amber' symbolizes the fate of those who flout the rules of life, and live as they please. In the end, she loses happiness, the one real love of her life, and even her child," he said.

"The screen has a duty to convey object lessons and it must have freedom within the limits of decency," Skouras said.

"I believe that we have fulfilled every reasonable obligation in producing and presenting 'Amber'," Skouras contended.

Prices Up, Open Longer For Coast 'Amber' Shows

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 26.—Operating hours will be extended in the 26 theatres opening with "Forever Amber" this Wednesday. Fox West Coast, after a meeting of all theatre managers, announced that Loew's State will open at eight A.M. and run until five A.M., while the Chinese, Uptown and other FWC houses will advance opening time from noon to 10:30 A.M. and will schedule late shows.

The advanced admission policy adopted last month will be in effect, with the general night price raised to $1.20 from a normal 85 cents. Circuit officials declined to comment on the "Amber" ban by the Legion of Decency.

Albany Catholic Paper Assails 'Forever Amber'

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 26.—*The Evangelist,* Albany Diocese Catholic newspaper, in an editorial criticizing the Fabian Circuit for booking "Forever Amber" into the Palace, here, recalled that in testimony given at the Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Washington one of the "Amber" script writers, Ring Lardner, Jr., was suspected of being un-American by his former employer, Jack L. Warner.

20th Formula

(*Continued from page* 1)

said at the weekend. Since the formula was launched on Aug. 11, it has been adopted by only 22 situations, located mostly in the Northeast, according to Smith.

The formula will be held open indefinitely for all eligible theatres that may care to adopt it, Smith said. He acknowledged that resistance to the program is still rooted almost solely in exhibitor reluctance to show expense figures and to pay the cost of auditing their figures. A certified audit is necessary to obtain benefits of the plan.

Review

"Killer McCoy"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

Hollywood, Oct. 26

WHAT seems to be shrewd timing and smart showmanship on the part of M-G-M, we have here, for the first time, Mickey Rooney playing a mature role and doing some splendid straight dramatic acting as a prizefighter in a picture bristling with action. The boy and smart-alecky adolescent roles that brought him fame in the Andy Hardy series, in "National Velvet" and in "The Human Comedy" are no doubt behind him forever.

If the Hollywood tradition that a *good* racing picture, a prison or prizefight story always sell tickets is true, then this one is dough in the damper for any spot. It also has the drawing power of Rooney's name and a supporting cast that includes such popular names as Brian Donlevy, Ann Blyth, James Dunn, Tom Tully and Sam Levene.

In a portrayal that is serious throughout, and that calls often for some finely shaded acting, Mickey plays a young fighter who, because he packs a lethal punch in one hand, battles his way to a bid for the lightweight championship. As a protege of a champion fighter he is taught all the tricks of the ring. When the champion retires, Mickey goes on, winning battle after battle, determined to dethrone the new lightweight champ.

When on the eve of one of his fights his opponent is taken ill and a substitute goes on with Mickey, he finds himself much to his dismay and sorrow facing his old tutor and friend, the ex-champ, seeking to make a comeback. Knocked out, the ex-champ dies, and thereafter the sports writers label Mickey "Killer" McCoy. Though he attempts to retire because of the tragedy, Mickey, burdened by a drunken father and unable to make a proper living at any other job, returns to the ring.

His father sells Mickey's fighter contract to the head of a notorious gambling ring. While training at the gambler's country estate he meets the latter's daughter. At first she is snobbish about prize fighters but later develops a liking, and even love for Mickey. On the night of one of the Killer's great fights, a rival gang of gamblers kidnap the girl and Mickey's father, making the condition of their safe return that Mickey lose. In one last redeeming act of his drunken life the father tricks his captors, is killed, but the girl escapes. She gets to the fight arena in time to tell Mickey she is safe. He then goes on to win after taking a terrific beating.

As the gambler and Mickey's manager, Brian Donlevy turns in a smoothly superb acting chore, with Ann Blyth as his daughter looking her prettiest and showing nice improvement as an actress. James Dunn, as the bibulous father of Mickey, is reminiscent of his role in "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Sam Levene has one of those wise-cracking portrayals, as Mickey's trainer, at which he has few peers. Tom Tully, Mickey Knox and James Bell are splendidly cast. Roy Rowland's direction, assisted by Johnny Indrisano in the fight scenes, gives the picture a realism, high action and dramatic power not often found in this type of screen story. Sam Zimbalist, as producer, shares this credit.

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

W. J. McGRATH

Theatre Knows Best

(*Continued from page* 1)

had one or more pictures coming up for which the policy might be considered.

"Green Dolphin Street" will be offered at either sliding scale or top participating terms "for extended playing time, to be presented at such admission prices as exhibitors may choose to charge," Rogers said.

The company's sales organization has been asked to seek Thanksgiving Day dates for the picture in a maximum number of exchange centers. It will be available on Nov. 27 after a number of pre-release engagements in Loew and other theatres, starting Nov. 11 and Thanksgiving Day.

Thereafter, the sales force has been advised, "first efforts should be directed to those localities that offer engagements of one week or longer."

Rodgers took the occasion of his announcement to deny reports that M-G-M is making or will make any wholesale reduction in its sales staff. He pointed out that when blocks-of-five selling was introduced M-G-M added 25 or 30 salesmen to its staff and that, with the advent of single picture selling, those men were no longer needed.

He said that 7,000 M-G-M theatre customers pay $50 per picture, or less, for top productions and about 3,000 of those pay $25 or less for a top picture. With M-G-M releasing 24 pictures annually instead of the 48 yearly releases of a few years ago, it was no longer practical to employ the same number of salesmen.

He said M-G-M will make and release more pictures when the market can absorb them, but that at present the company's pictures frequently are held up waiting for open time. Rodgers denied that M-G-M has reduced the number of prints available for use and denied that the company is selling pictures by mail or phone.

Johnston Bids

(*Continued from page* 3)

committee in its effort to expose or develop facts has injured an innocent individual, it has injured itself more. The entire institution of Congress suffers. We arm the advocates of paternalism and the police-state and undermine the legislative system.

"Congress, the representative body of the people, must be scrupulous in its relationship with the people, and as an institution must be at all times above reproach.

"Congress must take positive action to re-emphasize the rights of man, the citizen."

"I earnestly appeal to you to initiate this needed reform at the next session of the Congress," he concluded.

Independents Offer New Code for Radio

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Objecting to the proposed standard of practices for broadcasters to be voted upon by the board of the National Association of Broadcasters next month, on the grounds that the networks were primarily considered, a group of independent station operators has drawn a new code to present to NAB. It would strengthen the present provision leaving to the individual broadcaster's discretion the ma[illegible] in which questionable matter sh[illegible] be handled, it was said.

The independents are particularly concerned about the proposed limitation of commercials in proportion to program material. Multiple sponsorship shows, they demand, should not fall under the present provision which limits commercial time on single-sponsor programs.

The group also recommended that any proposed code should be sent to all stations, so that they might state their opinions, at least 60 days before the board takes formal action.

They ask only minor changes on the provisions raising the standards regarding sex, crime, horror, drunkenness, narcotics and profanity, in programs.

Protestant Feature Is First of Seven

Completion of the first feature picture, "Beyond Our Own," produced jointly by major Protestant denominations in the U. S. was announced at the weekend by Paul F. Heard, secretary of the Protestant Film Commission. It is the first of a series of seven and the forerunner of a movement to present messages of the Protestant church on the screen.

World premiere will take place simultaneously on Nov. 10 in 100 cities, including cities in this country and Canada, as well as London, Melbourne and Manila.

TOA in 33 States

(*Continued from page* 1)

ble claimed that the TOA has become the most representative national theatre association ever to exist, both numerically and geographically.

Most recent to join are the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, which elected Guthrie Crowe as its director on the TOA board, and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut which named Arthur Lockwood to the directorate.

Questioned regarding financing, Gamble said he has yet to encounter any objections to TOA's 10-cents-per-seat assessment formula. He added, however, that actual collections are being made by state and regional units individually as they see fit.

Reports from other sources have it that some units already have agreed to provide the equivalent of 10 cents per seat for its members although all of the latter will not pay the same amount. It is understood that Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association officials have privately figured on a plan whereby the small-town member will provide something less than that amount while the more prosperous of its membership, particularly the large circuits, will make up the balance.

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VOL. 62. NO. 83 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1947 TEN CENTS

Tax Fails to Spur British Films: O'Brien

NATKE Sec'y Charges Producers, Labor Suffer

LONDON, Oct. 27.—T. J. O'Brien, secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, charged at a NATKE meeting here today that the British Labor Government, "having virtually prevented American films from coming here, has failed to provide facilities and remedies to replace them with British films."

The meeting, called to consider the closure of Alliance Studios which was brought about by a walkout of Film Industry Employees Council workers, also heard O'Brien, a Labor member of parliament, blame the Labor Government for the closure, although he went through the motions of condemning employers' methods.

"The 75 per cent confiscatory tax

(*Continued on page* 8)

5 TOA Leaders in Membership Drive

Arguing the need for unity is more clearly evident in the light of the numerous and weighty problems of the day, particularly when those concerning music performance rights and costs, increased admission-scale product, and taxation, no less than five principals of the Theatre Owners of America are making the rounds of exhibitor meetings across the country extending invitations to join the TOA.

Planning to attend future theatremen's sessions, and in some instances visiting exhibitors in areas where no organization is in existence, are Fred Wehrenberg, board chairman; Ted R. Gamble, president; Si Fabian, regional

(*Continued on page* 3)

Fla. Owners Join The National TOA

The Florida Theatre Owners Association has voted to affiliate with the Theatre Owners of America, TOA headquarters disclosed here yesterday.

Fred H. Kent of Jacksonville has been elected by the Florida group to serve on TOA's board of directors.

Fuller, Davis Off To Capital Tonight

Walter R. Fuller, general secretary of the British Cinematographic Exhibitors Association, and B. T. Davis, CEA president, who have been staying with friends at Milburn, N. J., since their arrival here from London by plane at the weekend, will leave New York tonight for Washington where they are scheduled to begin discussion tomorrow with Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston on the British *ad valorem* tax situation.

Theatre Building In High In No. Cal.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 27. — Northern California is booming with new theatre construction. Houses are springing up in all districts, and there have been innumerable sites purchased by both circuits and independents.

Mike Naify, of T. and D., has purchased a site near San Bruno on the main highway, for a theatre. On the same Junipero Serra highway, United California Theatres will construct a house, to seat 1,425, at Millbrae Highlands—completion is expected by May.

Bill David, architect for Golden State Theatres, announces acquisition of a lot at Lomito Park on the El Camino Real, for which theatre plans are now being drawn. Lakeport will shortly begin work on a new drive-in, and C. R. Bailey will build a theatre at Sharps Park.

Work is forging ahead on a new drive-in at Stockton with expectations

(*Continued on page* 3)

Claim 'Amber' Roxy Record

New York's first-runs ran second best to outdoor attractions as warm and sunny weather discouraged theatre going to some extent during matinee hours. The current week still looks like a good one although it is somewhat under the previous few weeks.

According to A. J. Balaban, executive director of the Roxy, "Forever Amber," with a stage show, will score the "greatest box-office figure ever compiled in a motion picture house in the entire history of show business." The film has established new records every day, he states, placing the gross for the first five days at $139,000, and on the basis of this, Balaban figures on over $180,000 for the first week.

The Roxy is running the picture six times daily, one more show than usual, the last performance starting at midnight, with the regular schedule of four stage performances. The house

(*Continued on page* 3)

Wolfson Heads 1948 Variety Convention

MIAMI, Oct. 27.—Mitchell Wolfson, co-owner of Wometco Theatres and first assistant chief barker of the Variety Club of Miami, has been named general convention chairman for the 1948 convention of Variety Clubs International, to be held in Miami Beach April 12-19, George C. Hoover, chief barker here, announced.

Committee chairmen under Wolfson include: finance, Sidney Meyer; hotels, Douglas Raff; South Sea party, Hal Pelton; journal, Herb Elisburg; transportation, Ed Claughton; entertainment, Don Lanning; registration, Dick Berenson; women's committee, Mrs. Ed Claughton; publicity, Tom Jefferson, and Sonny Shepherd.

Johnston Says Hearing Has Hurt Industry

Thomas Hits Back; Cite Lawson for Contempt

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, charged today in a statement read before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that "a damaging impression of Hollywood has spread all over the country as a result of last week's hearings" on communist activities in the film capital.

Asserting that from some of the testimony "the public would get the idea that Hollywood is running over with

(*Continued on page* 6)

Eric Johnston

Film Salesmen File For Use of NLRB

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—The Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen has filed organizational and financial statements with the Secretary of Labor, one of the two requirements set down by the Taft-Hartley law for taking cases to the National Labor Relations Board.

Labor Department officials said it

(*Continued on page* 8)

Name Kaufman SRO Seattle Branch Head

Herbert Kaufman, associated with Paramount for many years, has resigned as branch manager of Paramount's Seattle office, to become manager of the Selznick Releasing Office there, Milton S. Kusell, vice-president in charge of sales announced here yesterday.

Reviewed Today

"Escape Me Never" is reviewed on page 8.

CSU Authorizes Needy Workers to Return

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Clarifying flash reports that the 13-month-old studio strike was crumbling, which followed a four-hour meeting of members of Painters Local No. 644, Conference of Studio Unions' president Herbert K. Sorrell, who is also business agent of No. 644, stated that, "this is not a settlement, not a capitulation to the IATSE," explaining that a resolution proposed by himself and the executive committee merely permits needy members to accept work in studios without a union fine, prejudice or loss of rights. The resolution was adopted by a 261 to 243 vote. Another resolution, which would have sought the mass return of 644 membership, was overwhelmingly defeated.

Set decorators were meeting tonight to consider similar action with respect to relaxing picket lines for

(*Continued on page* 8)

Personal Mention

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal-International's director of advertising-publicity, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

●

JOHN FARROW, Paramount director, will be honored tomorrow by the Netherlands government in recognition of his aid to the Dutch during the war.

●

PAUL BRODER, president of Realart Pictures will arrive in New York Thursday for a conference with company executives.

●

HENRY KOSTER, Goldwyn director, will head back to the Coast today from New York following his return from England and France.

●

WILLIAM W. HOWARD, assistant general manager of RKO Theatres, leaves here today on an inspection tour of the circuit's Midwest houses.

●

EDGAR ANSARDI has purchased the Buras Theatre in Buras, La., from W. M. SENOX and assumed operation on Oct. 21.

2nd Columbia Meet Will Start Today

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 27.—The second of Columbia's three sales meetings will get under way here tomorrow at the Roosevelt Hotel, with A. Montague, general sales manager presiding. Present are home office executives and sales personnel, as well as division and branch managers, salesmen and head bookers from six exchanges.

Among other executives present will be Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Irving Wormser, Maurice Grad, George Josephs, and H. C. Kaufman. Representation from the field is headed by R. J. Ingram, Southeastern division manager, and J. B. Underwood, Southwestern division manager.

Royal Bids to Five Stars

LONDON, Oct. 27.—Invitations to attend the second annual command film performance showing have been extended to five American picture stars, Bob Hope, Robert Montgomery, Alexis Smith, Craig Stephens and Gene Kelly. They are expected to arrive here on Nov. 17 on *SS. Queen Mary.*

Quebec ATO Convention

MONTREAL, Oct. 27.—Annual convention of Allied of Quebec will get underway here on Wednesday. Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio exhibitor relations chief, New York, will be one of the principal speakers.

Extension for Paramount

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Paramount and Balaban and Katz have been granted an extension for filing of their brief aiming to strike out an anti-trust complaint by the De Luxe Theatre here. New date for the hearing is Nov. 6.

Delay Air Freight Rate Cuts 90 Days

Washington, Oct. 27.—Reductions for air freight shipments, including films, on seven airlines have been suspended for 90 days by the Civil Aeronautics Board. Amounting to about 33 1/3 per cent, the reductions were to have taken effect this week, but the board acted after independent freight carriers protested that the new rates are "unjust" and "discriminatory." Reductions put through on Oct. 5 by American, United and Penn-Central for a handful of cities are not affected by the suspension.

Name Meehan Acting NYC License Chief

Patrick Meehan, deputy commissioner of New York City's Department of Licenses, will serve as acting commissioner until Mayor William O'Dwyer appoints a successor to Benjamin Fielding who resigned to head the City Welfare Department.

Fielding, who became license commissioner on Jan. 1, 1946, devoted much attention to local motion picture operations during his 21 months as head of the city department that is most concerned with industry activities. Fielding was an ardent champion of decency in advertising and was a strong supporter of the industry's Advertising Code.

C. B. Akers Becomes A Partner in Griffith

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 27.—C. B. (Brownie) Akers, Griffith Amusement Co. executive, has resigned that position to become a partner-manager of Griffith's two houses and projected drive-in at Hobart, Okla.

Akers joined the circuit 20 years ago and has been active in various trade organizations, serving as chairman of the legislative committee of state exhibitors. Akers will remain on the board of the circuit and will be available for special consultations.

Resignations Rejected

OTTAWA, Oct. 27.—At a meeting of the Ottawa district Theatre Managers Association, with T. G. Lewis in the chair, resignations of president Angelo Stevens and secretary Sam Hebscher were rejected, these continuing until the next election. Hebscher was appointed official delegate to the sixth annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario in Toronto.

Cronyn Asks Contract End

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—Hume Cronyn has requested the termination of his M-G-M contract following five years with the studio. His plans involve entering production and will also direct on both screen and stage. He also plans to assist Alfred Hitchcock on the preparation of the script for the forthcoming "Rope."

A. S. Dickinson, 59, MPA Aide, Is Dead

Arthur S. Dickinson, director of the Motion Picture Association's conservation department for 20 years, died Saturday in Santa Monica, Cal., at the age of 59 after a long illness, the MPA reported here yesterday.

Dickinson, who retired from the MPA last July after 25 years in the motion picture business, joined the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, MPA's forerunner, in 1927.

Born in Chattanooga on Jan. 21, 1888, Dickinson studied engineering at the Georgia School of Technology. He was a member of Picture Pioneers, former financial vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and a member of its board of governors, also a member of the National Fire Protection Association.

Survivors include the widow, two daughters, Mrs. Winifred Cavallito and Blanche Dickinson, and a brother, Clarence of Graysville, Tenn. Funeral arrangements had not been completed.

Freeman Succeeds Tidwell at C. & R.

DALLAS, Oct. 27.—Ed Tidwell, general manager of C. and R. Theatres at Oklahoma City, has resigned and will be succeeded by Charles Freeman, present advertising manager. Tidwell's resignation will become effective on Nov. 1. His plans will be announced shortly.

Levin Acquires Two

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 27.—Purchase of the Lyric Theatre, Marysville, and the Franklin, Olivehurst, was announced here by Ben Levin of General Theatrical Corp. Levin acquired the houses from Frank Maun, who operated the Lyric for many years, and only recently built the Franklin. Maun has bought the Wheatland Theatre, Wheatland, from John Moore.

William T. Keogh Dies

William T. Keogh, 87, theatrical producer and real estate operator who built Loew's National Theatre in the Bronx and other amusement places, died yesterday, after a long illness, at his home in the Bronx. He produced shows in association with Sam H. Davis. Surviving are a son, William T. Keogh, Jr., and a sister, Miss Ida F. Keogh. Funeral services and burial will take place tomorrow in Charleston, S. C.

Walter L. Nolan Dead

Walter Leo Nolan, 56, veteran theatre manager formerly associated with Loew's, RKO, Century and Consolidated circuits, died here yesterday after a long illness. Services are to be held tomorrow at St. Ursula's Church, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., from Burr Davis Funeral Home, also in Mt. Vernon. The widow, a son, brother and sister survive.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATI

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
RITA HAYWORTH
LARRY PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
ROSE MARIE
The PITCHMEN
ADAM & JAYNE DI GATANO
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST. A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART • JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PARAMOUNT'S "VARIETY GIRL" starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person CHARLIE SPIVAK And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Will do your heart good."—Hale, News
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St.
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

RKO presents MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENE CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
('Le Silence est d Or')
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St West of B way
DOORS OPEN 11 A M CONTINUOUS

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Production in Spurt as 10 Films Start

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—The production graph took an upward swing when 10 pictures started and five finished, bringing the shooting total to 40 before cameras, against 35 one week ago. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "The Return of the Whistler," with Michael Duane, Lenore Aubert, Richard Lane. "The Fuller Brush Man," starring Red Skelton with Janet Blair, Don McGuire, Hillary Brooks, Adele Jergens, Trudy Marshall.

Finished: "Coroner Creek."

Shooting: "The Return of October."

Eagle Lion

Finished: "The Hawk of Powder River" (PRC), "Prelude to Night."

Enterprise

Shooting: "So This Is New York."

M-G-M

Shooting: "B. F.'s Daughter," "Homecoming," "State of the Union" (Liberty), "Hills of Home."

Monogram

Started: "Smart Woman" (Allied Artists), with Constance Bennett, Brian Aherne, Barry O'Sullivan, Michael O'Shea.

Finished: "Panhandle."

Paramount

Started: "Sainted Sisters," with Veronica Lake, Joan Caulfield, Barry Fitzgerald, George Reeves, William Demarest, Beulah Bondi. "Speed to Spare" (Pine-Thomas), with Richard Arlen, Jean Rogers, Richard Travis, Ian MacDonald, Roscoe Karns, Nenette Parks.

Shooting: "The Long Gray Line."

Republic

Shooting: "California Firebrand," "Old Los Angeles."

RKO-Radio

Started: "Arizona Ranger," with Tim Holt, Nan Leslie, Richard Martin, Steve Brodie.

Shooting: "Velvet Touch," "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," "Mystery in Mexico," "Joan," "I Remember Mama," "Rachel" "Berlin Express," "Stations West," "Good Sam."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Deep Water," "The Ballad of Furnace Creek," "Call Northside 777," "The Flaming Age."

Universal-International

Started: "Casbah," with Yvonne De Carlo, Tony Martin, Marta Toren, Peter Lorre, Hugo Haas, Thomas Gomez, Katherine Dunham.

Shooting: "Up in Central Park," "All My Sons," "A Letter from an Unknown Woman."

Warners

Started: "The Adventures of Don Juan," with Errol Flynn, Viveca Lindfors, Robert Douglas, Una O'Connor, Romney Brent, Alan Hale.

Shooting: "Winter Meeting," "Johnny Belinda," "April Showers," "Christopher Blake," "To the Victor."

Independent

Started: "For You I Die" (Arpi), with Cathy Downs, Paul Langton, Marian Kirby, Jane Weeks, Don Harvey, Charles Waldron, Jr., Roman Bohnen, Rory Mallinson. "The Flaming Forest" (Adventure Pictures), with Robert Lowery, Martha Sherrill, Charles Hughes.

Finished: "The Last Nazi" (Carl Krueger Prods.).

Fabian Cancels 'Amber' Booking

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 27.—In an unexplained switch, "Forever Amber" will make its Troy, N. Y., debut at Warners Troy Theatre, rather than at Fabian's Proctor's where it had been booked originally. Instead, Proctor's has scheduled "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," also from 20th Century-Fox. Booking of "Amber" at the Palace, Albany, and the Plaza, Schenectady, both Fabian houses, remains unchanged. The picture is to play on an advanced admission-scale basis, a policy which Si Fabian, head of the circuit, intends to denounce in a meeting, as yet unscheduled, with film company presidents.

U. S. Films Lead In Havana Houses

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27. — During July there were 22 pictures released in first-run Havana theatres, of which 15 were U. S. films, according to a Commerce Department report. Of the other seven, two were Mexican, three Argentine, one Spanish, and one British.

Total box-office receipts for the showing of these films, including second week holdovers, amounted to $121,286, according to local trade sources, the report says.

Canadian Exports Reach $2,311,000

OTTAWA, Oct. 27.—The external trade branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce reports that Canada's film exports during September dropped to $105,000 compared with $225,000 in the same month last year but the total of such exports for the first nine months of 1947 ended in September rose to $2,311,000, against $1,977,000 for the same period last year.

Lindau Named Director

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—At a meeting of the board of Allied of Illinois, Charles R. Lindau, operator of the Garfield, Kedzie, Annex and Louis theatres, here, was elected a director to fill an existing vacancy, it was announced by Jack Kirsch, president. Kirsch also announced that the Cozy Theatre in South Bend, owned by Harry A. Prawat, joined both the association and Allied's buying and booking unit.

To Fete DeMille

DALLAS, Oct. 27.—Cecil B. De Mille will be honor guest at a dinner at the Baker Hotel here Wednesday, to be given by Karl Hoblitzelle and Bob O'Donnell of the Interstate Circuit. De Mille also will be the guest at several other functions surrounding the opening of "Unconquered" here.

'Amber' Gross

(*Continued from page 1*)

opens at 9:30 A.M. with an 80-cent admission. At 12 o'clock this goes to $1.10; at five P.M. to $1.50, and at six P.M. to $1.80. The price goes back to $1.50 for the midnight performance. Tickets sell at $1.25 on Saturday morning, changing at noon to $1.80. On Sunday up to one o'clock the price is $1.50 and thereafter it is $1.80.

The house regularly scales its daily admissions at 80 cents from opening to noon; then 95 cents to five P.M., and from then to closing at $1.25. Saturday and Sunday prices are 95 cents to noon, $1.25 to five P.M., and $1.50 to closing.

Previous record holder at the house was "The Razor's Edge" which did $128,000 in its first five days, according to Balaban. "Edge," however, did not have an extra midnight showing. Moreover, the scale graduated to $1.80 top only on Saturdays and Sundays, the weekend maximum having been $1.50.

Rivoli Cuts Admission Scale

Meanwhile, top admission of $1.80 came to an end at the Rivoli because it was found to be too steep, even for "Unconquered." The house is now scaled up to $1.50 all week, rather than $1.80. Business for the current week, the third, is estimated at $46,000, following a standout $70,000 in the second week.

"That Hagen Girl," teamed with Ted Weems' orchestra, proved a fairly successful beginner with $50,000 probable for its first week at the Strand. Considerably hurt by weekend weather was the Criterion, where the second week of "Green Dolphin Street" apparently will give the house about $45,000, a drop of $15,000 under the opening week.

At the Paramount, "Variety Girl," with Charlie Spivak's orchestra, Mel Torme and others on stage, looks sturdy in its second week, estimated at $70,000. "The Swordsman," with Gertrude Neisen topping a stage bill at the Capitol is standing up nicely with $61,000 in view for a second week after a $69,000 opener.

See $121,000 for Music Hall

"Song of Love," with the stage show provided the Music Hall with $77,000 Thursday through Sunday, indicating $121,000 for a third week. This warrants holding the show for another week with "Cass Timberlane" probably going in on Nov. 6. About $18,000 is seen for the seventh week of "The Outlaw" at the Broadway, which is good enough.

The winter Garden's "Ride the Pink Horse" continues fairly well with about $22,000 looked for in a third week. "Secret Life of Walter Mitty" is still a money-making tenant at the Astor, the 11th week's gross being estimated at $26,000. Also for an 11th week, "Life with Father" should give the Warner a good $22,000.

The third week of "Magic Town" should bring about $17,000 to the Palace. "Fun and Fancy Free" is still a capable performer at the Globe where a fifth week's income should hit $18,000. Good, too, is "Nightmare Alley," at the Mayfair, which is heading for a $20,000 third week.

"The Gangster" will go into the Victoria tomorrow, replacing "Spirit of West Point" which is slated for a $9,000 fifth and final week. "I Know Where I'm Going" will stay at the Sutton indefinitely; the 10th week's business is $9,000 and that's good. "Beware of Pity" is next at the Park Avenue, replacing "Hungry Hill" which probably will wind up a third and final week with a low $5,000. At the Little Carnegie, "Tawny Pipit" is fair, with $5,000 expected for an eighth week.

Fineberg Is Head of Variety Tent No. 1

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 27.—Sam Fineberg was elected chief barker of Variety Tent No. 1 at a banquet celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Pittsburgh club. He succeeds Clifton Daniel. Ben Steerman was elected first assistant, Bert Stearn as second assistant, George Eby, treasurer, and Al Weiblinger, secretary.

The banquet, which was highlighted by the adoption of Catherine Variety Sheridan III as the eighth youngster adopted by the tent, was attended by prominent civic figures, film industry executives and screen stars as well as leaders of Variety International.

Variety Elects Rose

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Local Variety Club has elected Jack Rose national canvassman and named Jack Kirsch as his alternate. Rose is winding up as chief barker of the organization. Eleven local canvassmen were also elected. They are: Walter Immerman, John Balaban, Henri Elman, Irving Mack, Arthur Schoenstadt, Moe Wells, Tom Flannery, Irving Mandel, J. Harold Stevens, Robert Lubliner and James E. Coston.

TOA Membership

(*Continued from page 1*)

vice-president; Robert Coyne, executive director, and Herman Levy, general counsel. Some already have attended several recent conventions.

Yesterday in Albany, Harry Lamont, head of Lamont Theatres, was elected president of the TOA for the Albany exchange district at a luncheon attended by about 30 exhibitors. Fabian, regional vice-president called the meeting and spoke of the fight that TOA is waging against the Ascap fee hike.

Fourteen independents of the Albany territory were present at the organization luncheon. Though Meyer Schine, president of the Schine circuit and operator of the Ten Eyck, was not present, his absence was due to his hotel business in Florida, it was said. He and others are reported ready to become TOA members. Another exhibitor meeting will be held Nov. 3, at Hellman's Paramount in Albany to elect a national delegate.

Building, No. Calif.

(*Continued from page 1*)

that the Blumenfeld Circuit house will be open by the early Spring. Construction was halted 14 months ago when materials became inaccessable.

Application by T. and D. Jr. Circuit for permission to build a $1,000,000 multiple amusement enterprise on the outskirts of San Jose, was taken under advisement by the City Planning Commission for investigation. The proposed plan would encompass a drive-in theatre plus other commercial and amusement buildings.

The Crown Theatre has opened here under the management of Golden State Theatres.

pro
THE
RETURN
OF RIN
Directed by Max Nosseck • Produc
FILMED IN ALL THE GORGEO

RIN TIN TIN . . .

THE GREATEST ANIMAL STAR OF ALL TIME . . .

IS BACK!

Back . . . to Thrill Millions Anew . . . in the Kind of Picture That Made RIN TIN TIN the Screen's Biggest Money-Maker! Back in a Story of Tenderness and Thrills . . . Filmed Entirely in Color!

TIN TIN

Starring **RIN TIN TIN III**
DONALD WOODS · BOBBY BLAKE
Gaylord Pendleton · Claudia Drake
William Stephens • Released by EAGLE LION FILMS

OLOR OF THE VALLEY OF THE CALIFORNIA MISSIONS

PRE-SOLD

22 NATIONAL MAGAZINES CARRIED ADS TO 20,000,000 READERS!

MOVIELAND
SILVER SCREEN
SCREEN STARS
MOVIE STARS
MOVIE FAN
MOVIE SHOW
SCREEN GUIDE
BOYS' LIFE
MOVIES
MODERN SCREEN
PHOTOPLAY
YOUNG AMERICA
SCREEN ROMANCES
MOVIE STORY
MOTION PICTURE
PARENTS' MAGAZINE
THE YOUNG CATHOLIC MESSENGER
CHILD LIFE
CALLING ALL GIRLS
SCREENLAND
AMERICAN GIRL
MOVIE LIFE

NATIONAL TIEUPS SET TO SELL "RIN TIN TIN" IN BIG-SCALE EXPLOITATION!

Full-page GAINES DOG FOOD ad . . . in LIFE, SATURDAY EVENING POST (plus other national magazines). Nationwide TRUE COMICS — PARENTS' MAGAZINE GROUP contest with prize of Rin Tin Tin pup! Reached additional millions!

Johnston

(*Continued from page 1*)

Communists and Communism," Johnston called upon the committee to correct during the hearings the damaging impression created.

Johnston said the subcommittee's report "that some of the most flagrant Communist propaganda films were produced as the result of White House pressure" has been "completely refuted" by testimony and the damaging impression it left also should be corrected.

Johnston's statement said that the subcommittee's report referred to a list "of all pictures produced in Hollywood in the last eight years which contained Communist propaganda" and asserted that "until the list is made public the industry stands condemned by unsupported generalizations, and we are denied the opportunity to refute these charges publicly."

Champions Free Speech

It is the obligation of the committee, he said, either to present its evidence or to absolve the industry from the charges against it.

Johnston's statement also championed the motion picture producer's right to free speech. He reiterated that intimidation or coercion can curtail that right as effectively as could a law.

"Good and honest motion pictures cannot be made in an atmosphere of fear," he said. "We insist on our right to decide what will or will not go into our pictures. We are deeply conscious of the responsibility this freedom involves but we have no intention to violate this trust by permitting subversive propaganda in our films."

Johnston called upon the committee to expose Communists but "expose them in the traditional American manner." He also urged combatting Communism by attacking it in the breeding grounds of poverty and misery.

"If we fortify our democracy to lick want, we'll lick Communism, here and abroad," he said.

First witness at tomorrow's hearing session will be Roy Brewer, West Coast head of the IATSE.

Today's hearings were held before a subcommittee consisting of chairman Thomas, Rep. John McDowell (R., Pa.) and Rep. Richard B. Vail (R., Ill.)

Immediately after Johnston's statement, Thomas took him to task for not cooperating with the committee. "You told us you would give us the full cooperation of you and your organization," the chairman asserted. "I just wouldn't want to tell the kind of cooperation we've been getting," he continued.

Thomas said there were two or three things "that make me boil." Prominent persons had asked the committee to "lay off" the hearings, he said, or postpone them. The committee was asked to refrain from calling certain witnesses or asking certain questions, he charged.

Other persons, he continued, "used all the tricks of the trade" on committee investigators, in an effort to find out what the committee intended to do. One man, he said, "gave all the signs of making an offer," although not actually making one.

"I think we have given you every cooperation you asked for," the MPA president replied. He pointed out no member of the MPA or any person connected with it had gone to the committee, that he had found out one witness asked the committee not to be called, but that when he heard of it he told the witness to ask to be heard.

Reads Three-point Program

Declaring he had with him MPA resolutions about the committee and the minutes of meetings pertaining to those resolutions, as the committee had demanded, Johnston read a statement based on a program submitted to MPA members in Hollywood.

Johnston told the committee the producers had agreed to accept the first and third points of his three-point of his three-point program—insistence on a fair and objective investigation by the committee, and employment of James Byrnes as legal counselor to present all the facts to the American people.

Johnston stated, however, the producers had not accepted his second point, which was an agreement not to employ proven Communists in jobs where they would be in a position to influence the screen, after the Un-American Activities committee had supplied both conclusive proof and the names of any such persons.

The producers did not accept, he declared, for the following reasons:

Legal counsel advised it would be a potential conspirarcy to band together for such a purpose; they did not know who would prove that a man was a Communist or by what methods it would be proved.

They felt it was first the duty of Congress to determine that a Communist was an agent of a foreign government who was attempting to overthrow the government by unconstitutional means.

Questions Byrnes Absence

Under insistent questioning by chief investigator Robert Stripling as to "why Mr. McNutt has replaced Mr. Byrnes," Johnston maintained McNutt had never replaced the former Secretary of State; that it was understood Byrnes would make no appearances before any Congressional committee.

After further questioning on Byrnes, Stripling asked Johnston if he were aware that Edward T. Cheyfitz, who accompanied Byrnes to Hollywood, had been a member of the Communist Party.

Johnston replied he knew Cheyfitz, an MPA executive assistant, had been a member of the party at one time, but that Cheyfitz had gone to Russia, become disillusioned, and subsequently resigned.

After Stripling had made repeated allegations about Cheyfitz, Johnston asked him what the "benefit" was of his investigation of the MPA assistant.

"I'm still wondering why Byrnes withdrew," Stripling remarked.

Emphatically, Johnston declared, "he never withdrew. He was never supposed to appear before the committee. He was employed to advise the Motion Picture Association and he is doing that."

Johnston asked the committee to insert in the record several letters of recommendation he

(*Continued on page 8*)

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 27

THE Un-American Activities Committee again today sought to disabuse the accusation that it was seeking to impose "thought control" on the industry. This time, the committee spokesman was Representative John McDowell (R., Pa.) who declared at the conclusion of Eric Johnston's testimony:

"We are not concerned with the kind of pictures you make. We politicians know nothing about it. I have never heard of it nor am I aware that it has ever been suggested within the committee that the committee should seek such a control. So long as I am a member, and Mr. Thomas and Mr. Vail are, that will not be done."

To which Johnston observed, after thanking McDowell:

"Just as there are good and bad writers in Hollywood, there are different types of Congressmen."

Immediately ahead of this repartee, McDowell volunteered for the record, "The industry has come out of these hearings with a very fine reputation."

●

However, the proceedings this afternoon were not always in the same pleasant vein. Chairman Thomas was sharp on a number of occasions with Johnston and so, too, was Chief Investigator Stripling.

In admitting without hesitation that Edward Cheyfitz, one of his top assistants, was a one-time Communist Party member who had been "disillusionized" after working a year in Russia, Johnston created a decided ripple of surprise although MPA strategists anticipated this development.

Fortified with letters which he said attested fully to Cheyfitz's character and ability, Johnston was asked by Thomas when he got them. It appeared one, at least, was dated as recently as last week.

Thomas: "You sort of had a suspicion something was coming up?"

Johnston: "Knowing Mr. Stripling, I was prepared for anything."

●

Johnston and Stripling also clashed. Stripling asked if Johnston had found evidence of Communism or Communistic activity in his looks around Hollywood. Johnston replied he had been told there were some in the Screen Writers Guild. "I went and talked to them and laid it on the line."

Stripling: "Did you attempt to prove it?"

Johnston: "Who can prove a man is a Communist?"

Stripling: "This committee can prove it."

Johnston: "I'm not the committee."

Stripling: "I wouldn't be surprised from the statements you have been making the last few days that certainly you have attempted to run it."

●

"I don't desire counsel," declared Johnston after being sworn in.

"Why is Mr. McNutt here?" asked Stripling.

"It might be wise to have him on hand," replied Johnston. "Mr. McNutt may have to hold my hand."

"If he'll feel any better, let him have Mr. McNutt present," determined Thomas.

●

Asked to name his principal members, the MPA head obliged readily. In the doing, however, he listed all but Paramount. Inadvertently, of course, but only a few caught the omission anyway.

●

With *Motion Picture Almanac* before him, Stripling displayed interest in why the Production Code contained no provision covering propaganda and seemed to assume it should. Johnston explained propaganda was not covered because the function of the Code is to check moral content.

●

Representative Vail: "Do you think this probe is warranted?"

Johnston: "Yes, I think it is warranted."

Stripling: "If it's true that John Howard Lawson is a Communist, would you employ him?"

Johnston: "If proven, I would not."

By proof, he meant the Un-American Activities Committee must furnish it.

Full Page Ads Tell 19 Witnesses' Story

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—The 19 so-called "unfriendly" witnesses, under subpoena by the Un-American Activities Committee, took their case to the Washington public in full page ads today in which they declared their intention "to use every legal means within our power to abolish this evil thing . . . and to put an end, once for all, to the uncontrolled tyranny for which it stands."

Joined with them was the C[illegible]ttee for the First Amendment, a committee of 90 Hollywood professionals, including Humphrey Bogart, Charles Boyer, Eddie Cantor, John Garfield, Judy Garland, Paulette Goddard, Rita Hayworth, Katharine Hepburn, Danny Kaye, Mervyn Le Roy, Anatole Litvak, Fredric March, Gregory Peck, Edward G. Robinson, Jerry Wald, Walter Wanger, Cornel Wilde, Billy Wilder and William Wyler.

TWA is the way to fly to

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2 hrs. 10 min. $18.25 tax extra

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Your choice of 17 flights daily to Pittsburgh . . . For immediate reservations see your travel agent or call

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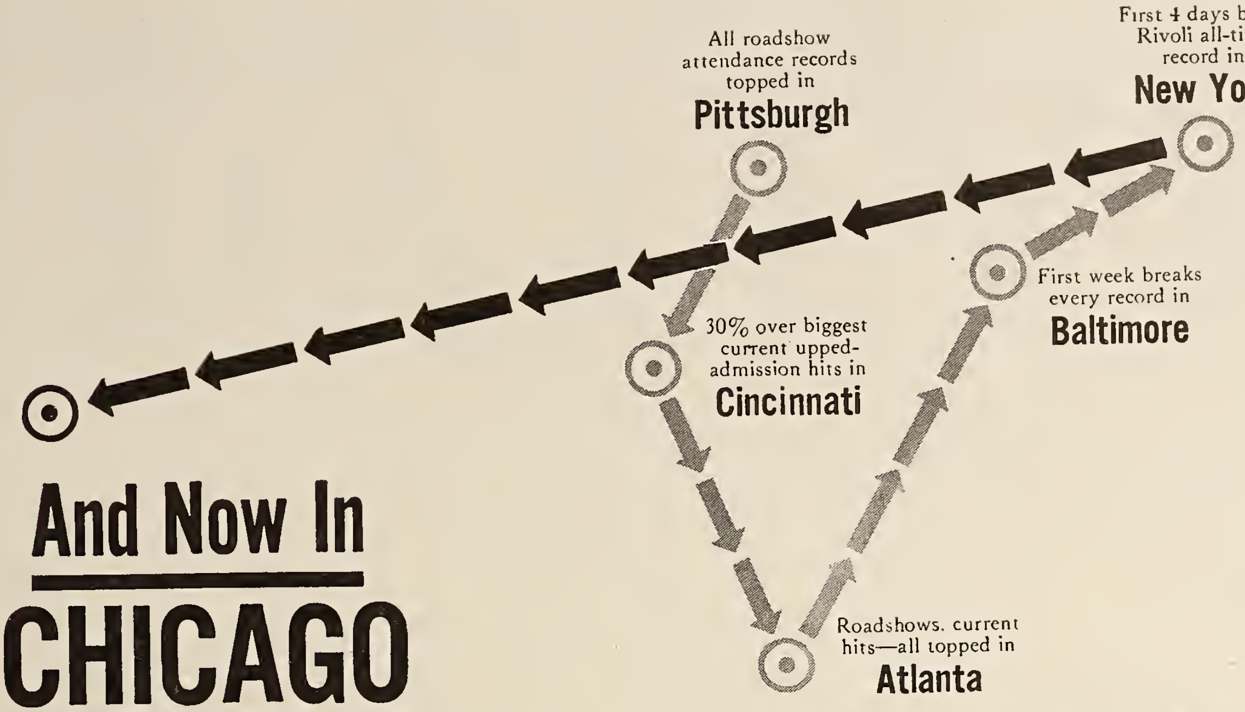

All roadshow attendance records topped in **Pittsburgh**

First 4 days broke Rivoli all-time record in **New York**

First week breaks every record in **Baltimore**

30% over biggest current upped-admission hits in **Cincinnati**

Roadshows, current hits—all topped in **Atlanta**

And Now In CHICAGO

FIRST 5 DAYS BEAT BIGGEST PREVIOUS WEEK'S BUSINESS IN HISTORY OF U. A. THEATRE!

Paramount's

UNCONQUERED

is Sweeping the Country!

GARY COOPER · *PAULETTE GODDARD*
in *Cecil B. DeMille's*
UNCONQUERED
Color by TECHNICOLOR
with HOWARD *DA SILVA* · BORIS *KARLOFF* · CECIL *KELLAWAY* · WARD *BOND*
Produced and Directed by CECIL B. DeMILLE
Screenplay by Charles Bennett, Fredric M. Frank and Jesse Lasky, Jr. • Based on the novel by Neil H. Swanson

'Red' Line Would Not Be Tolerated: DeMille

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 27.—Cecil B. De Mille discussed the "Battle of Freedom" today at a meeting of the Advertising and Sales Executives Club, declaring that whenever there is a debate on the topic "Is There a Red Menace in Hollywood?" one side "smears Hollywood with mud" and the other "smears it with whitewash," but the subject is too important for either "mud or whitewash."

Motion pictures belong to the American people, he said, and the people are entitled to know the unvarnished facts. While remarking that there are Communists in Hollywood, he believed there is not one major producer who would tolerate outright Communist propaganda on the screen.

Johnston

(*Continued from page 6*)

had received concerning Cheyfitz. These included letters from the Most Reverend Karl J. Alter, Bishop of Toledo; Reverend John F. Cronin, assistant director, National Catholic Welfare Conference; and Jack Biggers, president, Libby - Owens - Ford Glass Co.

At the close, Thomas told Johnston, "by inference you have been very critical of the methods used by this committee."

Our duties are to expose, Thomas told him, and the motion picture industry has no *"sanctum sanctorium"* about it. The use of "glamour girls" or "money" would make no difference to the committee, he said.

"We're going to continue to expose," Thomas concluded. "Sit around this week, and maybe part of next week, and you'll see more exposing than you have ever seen."

Earlier Thomas said he expected to answer today a letter sent by McNutt making "formal request" that Samuel Goldwyn be called in order that the committee "be enabled to accomplish its stated aim to 'give the American people the full facts.'" Thomas said the committee would be "glad to hear Mr. Goldwyn in due course."

Committee Cites Lawson for Contempt

At the close of this morning's session Rep. Thomas announced the sub-committee unanimously considered writer John Howard Lawson in contempt of Congress, and would recommend to the full committee that a resolution be passed so citing him.

The announcement came after Lawson, who was denied permission to read a statement, had repeatedly refused to answer the question: "Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?"

A committee investigator, who took the stand, stated he had a copy of Lawson's Communist Party registration for 1944, bearing the number 47,275. This was followed by the reading of a nine-page statement listing Lawson's alleged Communist activities during the past 12 years.

At the outset the committee went into an executive session lasting 15 minutes to consider the motion made by Bartley Crum and Robert Kenny, attorneys for Lawson and the other "hostile" witnesses under subpoena by the committee. The California attorneys moved to quash the subpoenas on the grounds the committee was unconstitutional, and asked the right to cross-examine previous witnesses who had made "vilifying" statements against their clients. Thomas announced the committee could not "establish its own legality," and denied the request for cross-examination.

Shortly before the morning session opened, William Morris, Jr., president of the William Morris Agency, gave Thomas a sworn statement denying the accusation made against John Weber, head of the literary department of his agency. Last week, witness Jack Moffitt charged that Weber who in his opinion was a Communist, had obtained a story containing secret information about a supersonic plane from an Army pilot.

Disclose 'Suspect' Films McNutt Demands Again

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Motion Picture Association coordinator-counsel Paul V. McNutt at the week-end again demanded that the House Un-American Activities Committee make public a list of "suspect" pictures or absolve the industry of any guilt.

In a letter to committee members, McNutt said the committee, which after its West Coast investigation last May reported that Communist propaganda has been injected into many pictures, was duty-bound to answer three questions: What pictures are on such a list? What lines and scenes contain Communist propaganda? What opportunity will be given to answer and refute the charges made?

"Unless the committee presents this evidence and gives the opportunity to refute it in these public hearings," the former Indiana governor states, "the committee has the obligation to absolve the industry from the charges made. Let the pictures speak for themselves. The American public will be the judge."

Byrnes Denies "Mystery"

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Late tonight James F. Byrnes denied that there was any mystery in his refusal to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Byrnes said that he had an established policy not to represent any person or group before legislative committees when he returned to private law practice. The former Secretary of State pointed to a press statement he made on June 4, when he assumed the position of counsel to the Motion Picture Association.

More Filming Here

A feature with a background of whaling in the Antarctic, tentatively called "Harpoon," will be filmed in the East this fall by Rudolph Carlson Productions. Background scenes were secured on a seven-month expedition to the Antarctic.

Review

"Escape Me Never"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Hollywood, Oct. 27

HERE is a splendidly produced, finely acted screen version of one of Margaret Kennedy's best novels that has been hiding its light in the Warner studio film vaults since it was completed in Jan., 1946. Only its producers know the reason.

Though once before produced in England and released in this country by United Artists, as well as having been made into a hit play, none of these previous efforts hold the proverbial candle to the moving and entertaining production here given this tempestuous triangular romance by producer Henry Blanke. A faithful interpretation of Miss Kennedy's novel, it will twang the emotional strings of any audience, as it hits the heights of happiness at one turn of the plot and dives to despair at another.

It offers Errol Flynn and Ida Lupino at the top of their talents as screen stars. He is the beloved, philandering vagabond musician, Sebastian, with a fuse of genius within him waiting only to be lighted. As Gemma, Miss Lupino reveals her versatility and peak powers as an actress in a role that calls for pixie pranks at one turn of the story, and the tragic histrionics of a Duse at another. She paces Flynn to a photo finish for the acting honors.

While foraging food for her fatherless baby and her boy friend with whom she lives in Venice, Gemma enters a rich man's castle by subterfuge. Caught, and called to account by the owner, she casually reveals that she is hungry, that she has a baby, and that she lives with the musician son of the late famed composer, Sanger. The castle's owner and his wife are horrified because her description fits Caryl Sanger, fiance of their carefully bred daughter, Fenella. Fenella, too, is shocked when the parents reveal what they believe to be their prospective son-in-law's duplicity.

They take Fenella from Venice to a mountain retreat in Austria, without a word of explanation to the fiance. When Gemma learns that the jilted Caryl is the brother of Sebastian, with whom she lives, and that she is the cause of it all, she, the baby, Sebastian and Caryl seek out Fenella in the mountains. Sebastian, first to meet Fenella, starts a campaign of seduction. She is fascinated by him. Gemma appears and tells Fenella of the misunderstanding and reunites her with Caryl, while Sebastian, Gemma and the baby go to London.

In London he and Gemma are married, but he continues to hold secret trysts with Fenella who has followed him. While he is on one of these clandestine meetings, Gemma's baby dies. Grief-stricken, and heartbroken at her husband's infidelity, she disappears. Sebastian seeks her in vain. On the night that a ballet he has written is successfully produced he sees her enter the theatre, begs her forgiveness and they are reunited.

Sterling support is given the co-stars by Gig Young, as the conventional and dull Caryl. Eleanor Parker is an authentic Fenella, well bred but not averse to adventurous romance. Well turned performances are also given by Reginald Denny, Isobel Elsom, Albert Basserman and Ludwig Stossel.

As a comparative newcomer from the English stage, director Peter Godfrey has given the picture sensitive and knowing direction, especially in its gay and tragic sequences.

Running time: 103 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

W. J. MCGRATH

Film Salesmen File

(*Continued from page 1*)

was impossible to reveal whether or not the independent union has received a letter of compliance yet. Some unions that have filed have not received such letters due to errors or omissions in filing.

The NLRB said that the Colosseum's officers had filed some, but not all, of the non-Communist affidavits required by the law as the second condition to using the board.

Other film industry unions fil[illegible] organizational and financial statements with the Labor Department are IATSE, Associated Actors and Artistes of America, Brotherhood of Painters, and Carpenters union. All these were on a recent NLRB list of unions whose officers had filed non-Communist affidavits.

The National Independent Motion Picture Operators union has also filed, as have the Warner Brothers Police and Firemen Protective Association. IATSE and one of its locals have filed the financial statments, and 10 locals of the "Four A's," although the latter parent organization has not filed yet.

The Painters international union has filed, along with 72 locals. Twenty-nine Carpenter locals have filed, but not the parent organization. Letters of compliance cannot be issued to local unions until the national or international union, as well as the locals, have filed.

CSU Authorizes

(*Continued from page 1*)

its members in straitened circumstances, with the outcome expected to parallel 644's action. Carpenters will meet Wednesday night and the machinists on Thursday, but there are no present indications that similar action is anticipated.

Several painters sought studio work during the day and, where vacancies existed, were signed on, it was reported. Attitude of the studios is that members of Local No. 644 enjoy the same status with respect to eligibility for employment as any other qualified workmen. Due to the absence of Richard F. Walsh and Roy Brewer from the city, the attitude of IATSE, which has supplied replacements for the striking painters, could not be determined immediately.

Tax Fails: O'Brien

(*Continued from page 1*)

on American film imports, ostensibly the greatest impetus British production has had, has misfired," O'Brien declared. "In direct consequence," he said, "independent producers can't raise money to finance production. J. Arthur Rank is talking about retrenchment when the occasion demands expansion. Rank, budgeted for the world market, finds himself faced with a village fair."

O'Brien, declaring that governmental mishandling of the tax question is spreading ruin not only to industry employers but to workers as well, hinted that he may again raise the tax matter in the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, the Trades Union Congress has conveyed to the Association of Cine-Technicians, which largely sways FIEC, its disapproval of the FIEC demands in the Alliance dispute.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 84 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1947 — TEN CENTS

McNutt Scores Thomas Unit 'Insinuations'

Denies MPA Sought to Sidetrack the Probe

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Charging that the Motion Picture Association was accused without proof of having tried to "stifle" the current inquiry into alleged Communist infiltration in Hollywood, MPA coordinator-counsel Paul V. McNutt today demanded proof "of these gratuitous insinuations" from the Thomas committee.

In a statement which he read at the opening of the afternoon session, McNutt said: "We were accused of trying to get the committee to 'lay off' the investigation."

He referred to charges made by chairman J. Parnell Thomas at yesterday's hearings to the effect that "prominent" persons had asked the committee to lay off or postpone the inquiry and that "all the signs of an offer" had been made to the committee.

"If charges can't stand the light of day in open and above-board discussion, they should not be made," the MPA counsel continued.

He quoted from a press release announcing the postponement of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Set Designers Vote Return

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—By a vote of 88 to 23, the Screen Set Designers, Local No. 1421, last night passed a resolution permitting needy members to return to studio employment without penalty or prejudice. The resolution is similar to the content and intent of one adopted by the Painters Local 644 earlier, with Herbert K. Sorrell present at the designers' meeting and endorsing its action.

Sorrell reiterated that the work return is up to individual members in both instances and that the strike status will be maintained "until all our union members are reinstated and our union contract and bargaining rights are respected by producers."

Machinists and the carpenters now are the only locals holding out in jurisdictional fight with the IATSE over set erection jobs. The machin-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Goldwyn Defends Higher Admissions For Quality Films

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday rebuked those exhibitors who protest advanced admissions on top product, yet share none of the production hazards and headaches and reap the box-office benefits.

Samuel Goldwyn

Speaking at a home office press interview here, he said exhibitors must realize "that without really outstanding pictures for their theatres, they are nothing more than real estate operators" and unless the producer "has the incentive, he can't continue to gamble and make great pictures."

Pointing out that advanced admis-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Memorial Here for Late Mayor Walker

James Sauter has been elected executive vice-president of the James J. Walker Memorial, Inc., the memorial to be set up to perpetuate the name of the late Mayor of New York by extending aid to organizations which promote the general welfare of the youth of the city. In this connection a building to be known as the James J. Walker Memorial Building is planned. Walker had hundreds of friends in the motion picture industry.

Details of the objectives will be disclosed at the first annual James J. Walker Memorial Dinner, to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria, here, on Dec. 4.

TOA, Treasury Meet On Admission Tax

Washington, Oct. 28.—While Rep. Harold Knutson, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, was drafting his report, yesterday, disclosing an admission tax cut is being included in the forthcoming tax bill, Theatre Owners of America president Ted R. Gamble and TOA executive director Robert W. Coyne were conferring here with Treasury Department officials regarding the TOA's program for a reduction in Federal admission excises.

Gamble recommends a reduction of at least 50 per cent in the tax.

Fabian Calls 67 to Federation Meet

The 1947 fund-raising drive of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York will get under way in show business at a luncheon-meeting of 67 leaders of the amusement division at the Hotel. Astor, here, on Nov. 5.

Chairman of the meeting will be Si Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, who is chairman of the amusement division in the campaign to raise $15,000,000 for welfare and community work in the New York Metropolitan area.

The roster of those called to the luncheon was released here yesterday by Fabian, as follows:

Barney Balaban, Irving Berlin, Spyros Skouras, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jack Cohn, Leonard Goldenson, Albert Warner, Matty Fox, Murray

(*Continued on page 8*)

Myers Lauds Rodgers' Stand on Admissions

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Allied States' general counsel Abram F. Myers today hailed as "a milestone in the battle of exhibitors to regain control over their own theatres" the recent statement by M-G-M distribution vice-president William F. Rodgers that "the exhibitor knows best" and that his company will not press for increased admission prices for "Green Dolphin Street."

The Allied official warned, however, that exhibitors should not delude themselves that the battle is won. He pointed out that Rodgers had said there are several other pictures coming up for which increased admissions might be considered, and that "Green Dolphin Street" would be offered at either a sliding scale or top participating terms for "extended playing time."

"We feel very strongly that the exhibitor also 'knows best' how long a picture should run," Myers stated. "It is wrong for the distributor to decide in advance that a particular picture shall be an exception to the estab-

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Not a Chance' For Tax Cut, Says Knutson

Excises Not Considered Until Winter Session

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28. — Rep. Harold Knutson, chairman of the tax-determining House Ways and Means Committee, said today that "there isn't a chance in the world" that a cut in the admission tax will be included in the tax bill which the GOP leadership is preparing to push through a special session of Congress.

"We're going to confine it to personal income," the Minnesota Republican stated. "There will be no excises in it."

He declared that the committee would probably get around to studying cuts in excise taxes shortly after the next regular session opens in January, but what excises would be cut and how much would depend on the Government's need for revenue at that time. That, he admitted, left the whole matter of any cut in the admission tax and other excises "pretty well up in the air."

Meanwhile, the Treasury Depart-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Taxes Are Up $4,300,000

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—September admission tax collections, based on August box-office receipts, showed a healthy $4,300,000 gain over Sept., 1946, collections, according to figures released by the Treasury Department today. This was a sharp reversal of the August collection picture, when figures totaled $29,309,000, against $33,592,000 in Aug., 1946.

Collections for all categories in September totaled $42,330,292, compared with $38,559,484 in Sept., 1946.

The general admission tax collections include receipts at legitimate theatres, sports events, and other amusement places as well as motion picture theatres, but exclude collections from roof gardens and cabarets.

3 Reviews Today

"So Well Remembered" and "Christmas Eve" are reviewed on page 4, "Linda Be Good" on page 8. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

QP Hollywood editor William Roscoe Weaver, a Hollywood and native Chicago clubman of quite some repute, admits that he has been outclubbed by actor Wendell Corey, whose *Motion Picture Almanac* biography lists these club memberships:

Santa Monica Wading Club, Baldwin Hills Coasting Club, Beverly Hills Toboggan Club, Palm Springs Punting Society, etc., etc.

▽

Thieves broke into the film delivery offices of the Gallagher Transfer Co. in Denver the other night and stole prints of two feature films—"I Was a Criminal" and "Shoot to Kill."

▽

A. G. D. West, director of Cinema-Television, Ltd., visiting here from London, reveals that regulatory legislation in England can be quite a problem, citing an existing law, which as yet has not been enforced, and which requires a television projector in a theatre to be "completely enclosed with 14-inch brick walls without any doors." An exhibitor could get around that one nicely, however, by merely building the walls around the projectionist.

England's Post Office Department has judisdiction over television, radio and all other media of communication, and under its rules it is "technically illegal to whistle for a taxi, or a gal, without permission."

▽

Exhibited at the convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, the other day, was a somewhat speedy camera which can take motion pictures at the rate of a mere 5,000,000 frames a second and, if the cameraman is really pressed for time, the gadget could be stepped up to 11,000,000 frames per second. With a 7,000-foot feature taking only 112,000 frames, Hollywood's cost problems will be a cinch to solve.

▽

While looking into the high admission problem at motion picture theatres in this country, we stumbled into word from London that the price of admission to window seats overlooking the processional route between London's Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey, scene of the Nov. 20 Royal Wedding of Princess Elizabeth, will be $300 each!

▽

The Broadway Association, here, has joined United Artists in the latter's court fight against the City of New York's attempt to invoke a curfew against the front lights of UA's Broadway Theatre after midnight. The association fears that the reputation of the "Great White Way is in jeopardy, a reputation which has grown steadily from the year 1679 when Broadway received its first artificial lighting. In that year, every seventh house was ordered to display a lantern on a pole, with the cost shared by all residents. It was the first street in the city to be artificially lighted, the first to be graded and paved, the first to be cleaned regularly. Those good ol' days.

Personal Mention

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio foreign distribution head, left here last night by plane for Mexico City.

•

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, left here yesterday for Jacksonville.

•

Emeric Pressburger will arrive here tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* from England.

•

Mrs. Sherwin Scully, the former Ida Balaban, daughter of John and Bertha Balaban, gave birth to a boy in Chicago on Sunday.

•

Norman McLeod will arrive here from the Coast on Monday.

•

Marcello and Cesar Girosi, heads of Superfilm Distributing Corp., left here yesterday by plane for the Coast.

•

Joe Di Lorenzo, Connecticut district manager for Daly Theatre Corp., is recuperating from auto accident injuries.

JACQUES KOPFSTEIN, executive vice-president of Astor Pictures will leave New York today for a tour of Southern cities.

•

Charles B. Taylor, advertising-publicity director for Shea's Buffalo theatres, will be in New York for several days.

•

Leon Schlesinger, general manager of the by-products division of Warners cartoons, is here on his annual trip.

•

Leo F. Samuels, of Walt Disney Productions sales department, will leave here for Mexico City at the weekend.

•

Fred Raphael, Walt Disney music exploitation director, is here from the Coast.

•

George Scharf, of M-G-M's legal department, left here yesterday for Cincinnati.

•

Howard Strickling, M-G-M studio publicity head, plans to leave here Friday for the Coast.

Five US Stars Accept 'Command Show' Bid

Hollywood, Oct. 28.—Representing the American motion picture industry at the second Command Performance before the King and Queen of England to be held in London on Nov. 25 will be five U.S. film stars: Bob Hope, Robert Montgomery, Loretta Young, Alexis Smith and Craig Stevens. With proceeds earmarked for the British Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, the program will feature Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife."

Norman Siegel of Paramount, who was in charge of the contingent which attended last year's royalty show, will again manage the troupe. They will sail from New York on the *SS Queen Mary* on Nov. 12. The entire project here is supervised by the Motion Picture Association.

RKO to Work Here

RKO Radio's "The Window" will be the first full-length entertainment film to be entirely produced at the RKO Pathe studios in New York. Camera work will start on Nov. 10. It will be produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., and directed by Ted Tetzlaff.

Gardner to New York

Samuel J. Gardner, field assistant to George A. Hickey, West Coast sales manager, is the fifth Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer field sales executive to spend a month at the home office, in line with the rotating plan. He arrived here from San Francisco.

Marcus Leaves NSS

Walter Marcus has resigned as assistant to Don Velde, National Screen Service accessories department head, here, effective this week. Marcus will leave shortly for a month's vacation and will announce his future plans upon his return.

Ted Gamble at White House on Europe Aid

Washington, Oct. 28.—Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, was among 100 leading business, industrial and labor leaders who attended the White House conference yesterday at which Secretary of State Marshall and other administration officials presented a review of European economic problems.

The meeting, called at the invitation of John R. Steelman, assistant to President Truman, was also addressed by Secretary of Commerce W. Averill Harriman and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson.

Walter Brackin, 64

Ozark, Ala., Oct. 28.—Funeral services were held here today for Walter Brackin, 64, head of the Brackin circuit and believed to have been one of the oldest exhibitors in the South, who died at his home, here, on Sunday. Surviving are the widow and a daughter.

William G. Fay, 75

London, Oct. 28.—William G. Fay, 75, Irish stage and screen actor who recently appeared in J. Arthur Rank's production, "Odd Man Out" in the role of Father Tom, died last night. He was one of the founders of Dublin's Abbey Theatre.

Fourth Fire in Year

Baltimore, Oct. 28. — The Times Theatre here had its fourth fire within a year and police believe that at least two of them were of incendiary origin.

Cinema Dante to Open

Cinema Dante, a new theatre to exhibit foreign films here, will open tomorrow with "Lucia di Lammemoor," new Italian film.

Newsreel Parade

THE return of the war dead from Europe is highlighted in all current newsreels. Other items include the calling of a special session of Congress by President Truman, and football events. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 18—Some 400,000 in New York honor first war dead home from Europe. The president calls a special session of Congress. The pigskin parade.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 216—Football films. Nation pays tribute to first [illegible] dead home from Europe. Fire ruins [illegible] Harbor.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 19—President Truman calls Congress. War dead from Europe reach America. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 86—Disastrous fires rage in Bar Harbor and other Maine villages. New York pays tribute to war dead. Thirty die in London train wreck. Columbia ends Army's winning streak. Other football events.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 21—War dead honored. Utah plane crash. Bar Harbor lost in fire. Football.

Smith Favors Films For Program Abroad

Washington, Oct. 28. — Senator Smith is another member of the Congressional committee investigating the U. S. overseas information program who named motion pictures as the key to the whole effort of selling Democracy abroad.

An aide of Sen. Smith, co-chairman with Rep. Mundt of a subcommittee which has just completed a month's on-the-spot survey in Europe, said Sen. Smith felt that the main reliance in the coming information program must be placed on films, instead of either press or radio. Rep. Mundt recently announced that he felt this way, too.

The aide said that Smith, who is still in Europe, would have more to say on the subject at the end of the month when he returns, but indicated that greater stress on films—either through Hollywood cooperation or Government production—ranked high on the suggestions he would offer.

45 at Luncheon Here For Don Gillette

Some 45 trade press friends and publicity colleagues of Don Carle Gillette, Warner Brothers home office trade press contact, gave him a "farewell" luncheon yesterday at the Famous Kitchen restaurant, here, on the occasion of his starting an extended leave of absence to write a novel.

Gillette will be succeeded by Sid Rechetnik at Warners.

Ford Plans Video Series

Toledo, Oct. 28.—Lee Motors, local distributor for Ford, has signed the first television ad contract in this area with Wendt Advertising Agency as a test for a nationwide video program contemplated by Ford, Harold F. Wendt, head of the agency announces. A series of film shorts are also planned around the television program, to go on the air starting April 1.

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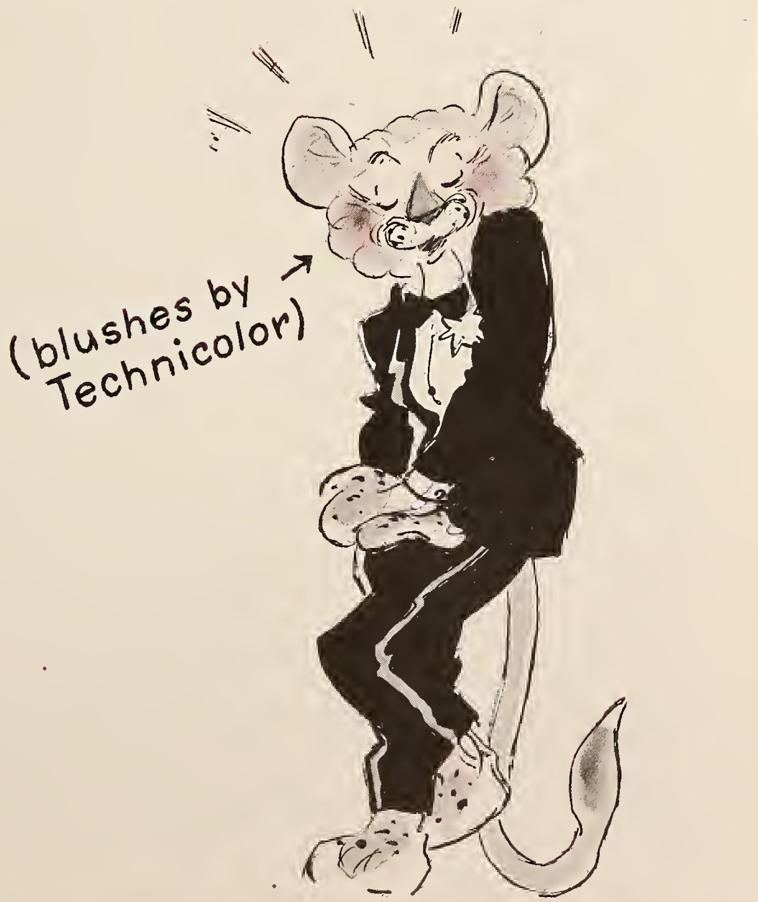

Too Much Killing In Films: Censor

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 28. — Murder mysteries have replaced "acrobatic love scenes" as the chief headache of the Ohio division of film censorship, according to Sarah Warfield, of the division.

"The Hollywood (production) code has eliminated the warm embraces of the Garbo-Gilbert era," Miss Warfield declared, "but in their place have come a flood of murder pictures with some of the most uncanny ways of killing people."

If a murder plot is too uncanny or suggestive, Ohio audiences may never see the film even though the "bad guy" gets caught in the end by the "good guy," Miss Warfield said. "We also make sure that the real names of drugs used in murder plots do not reach the audience's ears. Most of the time false names are given to the drugs." Miss Warfield is worried about the effect of "all this killing in movies" on all persons, especially on children. Also, she said all this "casual drinking" makes it appear that it is the usual thing to do.

As for changes in film morals, Miss Warfield said that the public "pretty largely" decides what should be censored. For example, she said scenes in which women smoked were deleted until the public finally accepted the smoking female. Drinking scenes, cut during prohibition, are not usually clipped now.

The postwar foreign film boom is keeping the censors busy. Although English scripts are provided with the films, interpreters are brought in for protection against double meanings.

Radio Manufacturing Continues to Rise

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Production of radio receiver sets continued to rise during September with a total of 1,339,980 produced, compared with 1,265,835 in August, according to the Radio Manufacturers Association.

During the third quarter of 1947 3,761,271 sets of all types were produced, bringing the total for the year to date up to 12,371,915.

Philco Sees Exports Of $14,000,000

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 28. — Philco International Corp. is anticipating a volume of $14,000,000 of export business this year. This was disclosed by Dempster McIntosh, president of the export unit, at a meeting here of Philco distributors from all over the world. The volume would be a new record and several hundred per cent greater than that of pre-war 1941.

Kitzmiller in Video Post

Ira T. Kitzmiller, for 14 years with RCA, has been appointed controller of United States Television Manufacturing Corp., by Hamilton Hoge, president.

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1270 6th Ave. N. Y. 20, N. Y.

Reviews

"So Well Remembered"

(J. Arthur Rank—RKO Radio) *Hollywood, Oct. 28*

PRODUCED in England by Hollywood's Adrian Scott and directed by Hollywood's Edward Dmytryk, with America's Martha Scott and England's John Mills co-starred, this painstaking picturization of James Hilton's novel about social oppression compares generically to "How Green Was My Valley" and to "The Citadel," although falling somewhat short of those precedents in roundedness and impact. It has in many respects that thoroughness and thoughtfulness which characterizes British product, and is ably performed by Patricia Roc, Trevor Howard, Richard Carlson and others in support, but it might have come off better if not carried beyond one generation, since John Paxton's screenplay thins out after it takes up the second. It is steadily serious, thematically sombre, and concentrates upon its sociological point at the sacrifice of entertainment value. It appears more closely attuned to the British market than American.

Hilton's involved story presents Mills as an earnest young man reared in an under-housed British mill-town dominated by Miss Scott's criminally oppressive father, now aged, whose death she permits to occur by negligence, planning to marry Mills and recoup her financial and social position through him. Political friends she cultivates mislead him regarding housing conditions and he enters politics under her persuasion, but withdraws when an epidemic breaks out. Their child dies, due to her negligence, and she leaves him, marrying again for money, and bearing a son who, now grown, is wounded in the war and returns to the mill-town, meeting Mills, now the mayor, and falls in love with an orphan girl Mills and a doctor friend had reared. Miss Scott attempts to break up the match, but finally is exposed and is told off by Mills, who at last knows her for the evil woman she is. The story spans the period of 1919 to the end of World War II.

The picture argues against oppression by employers, makes a case for adequate housing for workers, caricatures insincere politicians, and holds that persons addicted to drink, whether by choice or family tradition, can't do anything about it. Ruby Rosenberg was associate producer; the music score is by Hanns Eisler.

Running time, 114 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Christmas Eve"

(Benedict Bogeaus—United Artists)

BENEDICT BOGEAUS has here a rich array of marquee names to make his latest production one that should be easy to sell both to exhibitors and to theatre patrons alike, and he has given it a title that should gain mounting interest as the Yuletide season draws closer.

George Raft, George Brent, Randolph Scott and Joan Blondell head the starring roster; in support are Virginia Field, Dolores Moran, Ann Harding, Reginald Denny, Douglass Dumbrille, Clarence Kolb, John Litel and a host of others. The writing department offers the name of Laurence Stallings who authored the screenplay, based on original stories by himself and Richard H. Landau. Certainly it is a picture which does not want for top talent.

But it is a pity that the picture does not ring the entertainment gong quite as solidly as it could have. Responsibility for this may be in the direction, which seems lacking in forcefulness. However, it should be pointed out that the script, although potentially strong, emerges as a rambling affair which strives ineffectively to blend four plots into one.

Acting honors go to Miss Harding who plays an aged, rich eccentric who has taken to squandering her fortune on poor folk to the point where Denny, overseer of her bankroll, attempts to have her committed to an institution. By publicizing Denny's intention, she strives to get her three onetime wards, Raft, Brent and Scott, come to her rescue at a Christmas Eve gathering at her New York mansion when her fate is to be decided by a legal light. The three, it turns out, have become other than respectable citizens: Raft runs a honky-tonk somewhere in South America after having escaped U. S. agents who want him for a shady deal; Brent is a socially prominent wastrel; Scott is a hard-drinking rodeo performer.

Each has a trying time getting to their former benefactor's side—and the escapades and exploits of each are recited in detail—but they arrive in time to help the old lady. The misses Blondell, Field and Moran handle romantic assignments opposite Brent, Raft and Scott, respectively. Sets and camera work are first rate. Edwin L. Marin directed.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. October release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Siritzky Gets New One

"Antoine and Antoinette," which won a Cannes Film Festival award, has been acquired for American distribution by Siritzky-International. The French screenplay will be edited and provided with English subtitles for an American premiere at the Ambassador Theatre, here, in January.

New UAC-Canada Heads

OTTAWA, Oct. 28. — Contracts sins has been elected chairman of the board, and George G. Ganetakos named president of United Amuse-Corp. of Canada.

To Handle FDR Film Ads

Weiss and Geller, Inc., New York, has been appointed by Tola Productions to handle a national advertising campaign for "The Roosevelt Story," produced by Tola and released by United Artists. Joseph Curtis, W. and G. vice-president in charge of motion picture advertising, will handle the account.

New Transfilm Head

William Miesegaes, president of Transfilm, Inc., has appointed Charles T. Merritt as vice-president and director of sales.

Proclaims Newsreel Week Oct. 30-Nov. 5

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 28.—Citing what he terms the "excellence of the American newsreels . . . not only in their technique but also in their enterprise and the high standard of their editing," New York's Governor Thomas E. Dewey has proclaimed the period of Oct. 30 to Nov. 5 as "Newsreel Week." Dewey called the reels an "invaluable medium of communication" and applauded the men "taking the hazards of their occupation as a matter of course."

Election Day in New York occurs during Dewey's "Newsreel Week."

Construction Costs In Canada Increase

OTTAWA, Oct. 28—Ernest A. Couawarded for the construction of theatres in Canada have been affected adversely by increased costs of building materials and labor, together with shortages of each.

In the first month of 1947, the value of contracts awarded in Canada amounted to $1,326,000, compared with only $192,000 in January of last year, but in February of this year it dropped suddenly to a mere $30,000, being even less than the $83,000 of February, 1946. However, in March, contracts moved up to $780,000, against $414,000 in the same month of 1946, but in April once again a decline was recorded at $440,000, compared with $1,045,000 in April of last year, when supplies were supposed to have been worse than this year. By May of this year the highest figure was registered for theatre construction in Canada, at $1,690,000, against $740,000 in May, 1946.

By the middle of this year there was another downward trend, with only $892,000 worth of contracts made in June, and $703,000 in July, as against $1,137,000 and $1,381,000, respectively, in June and July of last year.

Parley on Materials

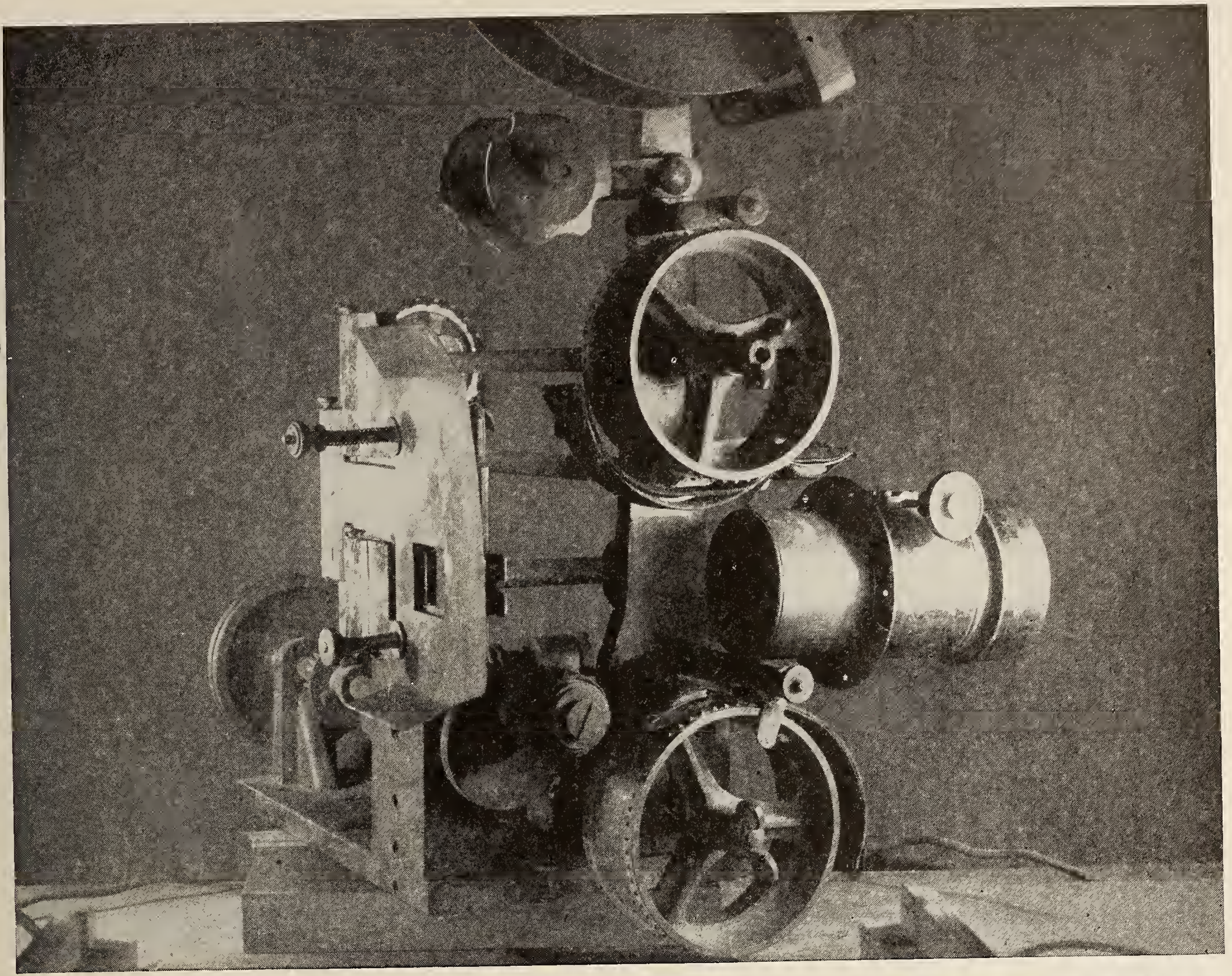
CLEVELAND, Oct. 28.—Shipment of films will be among topics to be discussed at a conference on the handling of materials which will be a feature of the second National Materials Handling Exposition to be held here Jan. 12-16. Cost reduction through improved handling will be the central theme of the discussions.

Hirsch Acquires 12

Melvin Hirsh, president of Crystal Pictures, will distribute 12 French pictures in the United States, the first release an Abel Gance production, "Blind Venus" starring Vivian Romance. This will be followed by "The Guilty," with Pierre Blanchar.

Giveaways Return

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 28.—First resumption of giveaways in this area will be two new autos, to be given by Fox Theatres at Butte and Pocatello, Hall Baetz, Fox district manager, said.



The Armat Vitascope which projected the first theater movie, April 23, 1896.

With this, the "unseen showman" got his epoch-making start . . .

THE projectionist has come a long, long way . . . since the 1890's when he put on his show with equipment such as this.

And today, as then, much of a motion picture's success depends upon the unseen showman in his booth.

To his sure sense of split-second timing . . . to his alert control of sound . . . to his deft handling of elaborate equipment . . . the film illusion owes much of its dramatic, realistic presentation on the screen.

Helping the projectionist to keep the mechanics of the medium from intruding is the top quality of Eastman motion picture films (both sight and sound) . . . members of a famous family started more than fifty years ago.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

Capital Probe

(*Continued from page* 1)

hearing, in which Thomas stated that the committee investigation would be postponed from Sept. 29 until Oct. 20 "in order that all members may be present for this important hearing."

From the very beginning, McNutt continued, "we have wanted all members of this committee present at these hearings. We wanted all members present to hear our story. We wanted them present so that this investigation would be the investigation to end all investigations of Hollywood by the committee."

At no time, he said, did the industry wish to "stifle" the inquiry. "The truth is," he asserted, "we repeatedly asked for a full, fair and conclusive hearing because we want to see Communists exposed wherever they may be."

"Statements and innuendos of the kind made at yesterday's hearings," McNutt concluded, "hardly become a committee of the Congress which has expressed its intention to conduct a fair and impartial hearing."

At the day's end three screen writers had taken their turn on the stand and had all been recommended by the sub-committee for contempt of Congress, bringing the total to date up to four.

No Quorum of Committee

Since a quorum of the committee was not present, Representatives Thomas, John McDowell and Richard Vail sat as a sub-committee.

"We have had four very prominent writers before us," Thomas declared, "who have worked in many studios and written many scripts for prominent pictures. It is evident that they did not want to answer our questions and it is evident that our research staff has proved they have extensive Communist records."

There will be more witnesses who will undoubtedly follow the same line," Thomas continued, "and yet this kind of script has been used in the motion picture industry."

"The committee has never looked into any field," he said, "where there has been more evidence of Communist activity than in Hollywood." It was "plain foolishness," he snapped, for any person in or out of the industry to say that the committee was engaged in persecution, in a witch-hunt, or in something it had "no business" to be doing.

Thomas Firm on Probe

"We will continue the hearings," he shouted, "we will continue the probe, and we will do everything we can to spotlight Communism in Hollywood. We believe it will be beneficial to the American people and to the industry itself."

Looking toward the long table at the side of the room where MPA officials have been sitting during the hearings, he said: "You're the higher-ups in this industry and you can do more to clear your house than anyone else. But you must have the will and we hope that by spotlighting these things you will acquire the will."

During the morning session the committee recommended the investigation's second contempt of Congress charge, this time against screen writer Dalton Trumbo.

Thomas charged Trumbo, author of the films "Kitty Foyle," "A Guy Named Joe," and "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," with having "followed the usual party line in not responding to the .questions."

When Trumbo took the stand he was denied permission to read a statement or to insert in the record recommendations of his work made by Army Air Forces General "Hap" Arnold, the chaplain in charge of motion picture projects for the Navy, and the head of the motion picture division for the UNNRA.

Trumbo parried questions on whether he was a member of the Screen Writers Guild, whether he was a Communist Party member.

When Trumbo finally asked to see the evidence on which the investigator based the question of his party membership, Thomas ordered him off the stand.

"This is the beginning of American concentration camps," Trumbo charged as he left the platform.

As in the case of witness John Howard Lawson yesterday, a committee investigator produced a photostatic copy of a Communist Party registration card in the name of "Dalt T.," and a nine-page committee report on Trumbo's alleged Communistic activities was read into the record.

Lays Studio Strike to 'Reds'

Roy M. Brewer, international representative of IATSE, told the committee that "if it had not been for Communist activity in the motion picture studio unions there would have been no strikes."

Brewer gave a detailed history of jurisdictional strikes in the industry since he came to Hollywood two-and-a-half years ago, and stated that the strikes, which he blamed on Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, were designed to "drive a wedge between the members of the Hollywood unions and the official branches of their organizations." He declared that the CSU "consistently followed the party line since its origin."

First afternoon witness, screen writer and author Albert Maltz, was the first "hostile" witness permitted to read a statement.

Asked by chief investigator Robert Stripling if he was a member of the Screen Writers Guild and if he was, or had ever been, a member of the Communist party, Maltz replied: "Next you will be asking me what my religion is."

Maltz Defies Committee

Stripling repeated his questions, Maltz repeated his answer. When Thomas confronted Maltz with the questions, the writer gave the same response. Thomas ordered him off the stand.

A committee investigator then produced a photostatic copy of an alleged Communist registration card for 1944, made out in the name of "Albert M.," and a 15-page committee report on Maltz's alleged Communist activities was put into the record.

Next "hostile" witness, Alvah Bessie, writer of "Objective, Burma," received similar treatment. He was permitted to read the opening and closing paragraphs of his prepared statement, then was asked the two pertinent questions concerning membership in the Screen Writers Guild and the Communist Party.

Bessie charged that the questions invaded his rights as an American citizen and gave no direct answer to the questions.

Thomas excused him from the stand and an investigator appeared with a photostatic copy of a Communist Party registration card bearing the name "Alvah Bessie," and a seven-page committee report on Bessie's alleged Communist activities was put into the record.

Thomas announced during the morning session that the committee was "two days behind schedule already."

Dore Schary, RKO Radio production chief and producer of "Crossfire," will take the stand tomorrow.

The Committee for the First Amendment, in a last fling before flying back to Hollywood tomorrow morning, wrote Speaker Joseph Martin and other representatives cit[illegible] long list of abuses in the committee's procedure and the dangers to free expression, and demanded "redress of our grievances."

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 28

ATTORNEY Robert W. Kenny and chairman Thomas had a neat set-to today when the latter asked the former if he had advised the "hostile" witnesses not to answer questions and "walk the plank."

. Kenny fell back on privileged communication between lawyer and client.

Thomas fell back on Section 37 of the Criminal Code dealing with conspiracy against the Government.

Thomas, finally: "You squirmed out of that one temporarily, but if the committee later determines a conspiracy was attempted, it will recommend action against you."

Kenny replied: "The committee squirmed out of one, too. Lawyers don't divulge the nature of their advice to clients, and you know it, Mr. Thomas."

•

Thomas on Dalton Trumbo, one of the four witnesses thus far recommended for contempt citation: "The fact he followed the communist line of not answering questions proves he is a communist."

•

Having refused Trumbo and John Howard Lawson permission to read prepared statements, Thomas pulled a surprise in permitting Albert Maltz to read his. This witness, facing a contempt charge, was biting all the way. Challenging the right of the committee to inquire into his political or religious beliefs, he declared finally: "I would rather die than be a shabby American, grovelling before men whose names are Thomas and Rankin, but who now carry out activities in America like those carried out in Germany by Goebbels and Himmler."

•

It has been apparent right along that the committee's pivotal question which anti-committee witnesses refused to answer on the ground of infringement of their rights as citizens was: "Are you, or were you ever, a member of the Communist Party?"

But it took chief investigator Stripling to define this as the $64 question" in putting it to Alvah Bessie.

•

Tracing the intricate history of Hollywood strikes, Roy M. Brewer, IATSE's representative on the Coast, painted the threat of Communist-controlled technical labor unions "supporting a Screen Writers Guild through which only pro-Communist writers could get into the industry." The screen would have been captured, he concluded, "notwithstanding the good intentions of the producers."

Since the producers repeatedly have declared their responsibility for the pictures they make, Brewer's reasoning was dfficult to follow.

•

Washington *News,* local Scripps-Howard paper, today editorially endorsed Eric Johnston's position that the procedure of Congressional committee hearings requires overhauling.

•

Motion Picture Almanac entered the scene again today, when Bessie's recent writing credits were placed in evidence.

Hollywood Probe Won't Hit Theatre Business: Myers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Exhibitors need not worry unduly about the possible adverse effect which the Un-American Activities Committee's current hearings here may have on theatre attendance, according to a bulletin issued today by Allied States' general counsel Abram F. Myers.

"On the basis of revelations to date," Myers states, "it will have no such effect—and the committee appears to have thrown its Sunday punch."

Declaring that the public is not concerned whether certain members of the Screen Writers Guild are or are not Communists, Myers declares that "admittedly little or no subversive matter has crept into films, and that is all the public is concerned about."

However, the Allied official does declare that even if the investigation does no harm, it is bad publicity and worse public relations, and should not have happened in the first place." Myers repeated a demand he made

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cheyfitz Quit Party 'Disillusioned'

Washington, Oct. 28.—Edward T. Cheyfitz, Motion Picture Association executive assistant, mentioned in yesterday's Un-American Activities Committee hearing as having been a former member of the Communist Party, said today he left the party in 1939.

Cheyfitz, who joined the party in 1932 when he was 18, said he spent a year in Russia during 1934-35 working as a laboratory technician in a chemical factory. He went over, he said, "just to see what was going on there."

His disillusionment with Communism began then, he declared, when he saw that the people lived under "very tough conditions, with no freedom of expression or movement." Disillusionment continued, he declared, after he returned to this country, and culminated with the signing of the Hitler-Stalin pact in 1939, when he left the party.

"Communism was like a religion," he said. "You couldn't lose it overnight."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"Forever Amber" is racking up $40,000 for a house record at the RKO Palace. Other offerings, with a [illegible] exceptions, are giving good ac[illegible]s of themselves. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28-31:

DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

FOREVER AMBER (20th-Fox)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.19) Gross: $40,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c, $15,000).

GOLDEN EARRINGS (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

SONG OF LOVE (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-59c) 3 days, dualed with **SON OF RUSTY (Col.)** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

SWAMP WATER (20th-Fox reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualed with **THE PRISONER OF SHARK ISLAND (20th-Fox reissue).** Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.19) 3rd week. Gross: 13,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c, $10,000).

UNEXPECTED GUEST (UA)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days, dualed with **THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)** Gross: $1,900. (Average: $1,600)

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,500)

TORONTO

In a week of mostly holdovers, grosses were generally fair, weather continued good and chief opposition was football and hockey. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (75c-$1.20) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $7,400).

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $9,200).

DESERT FURY (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $14,900).

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S (2,074) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.20) 6 days. Gross: $20,200. (Average at regular prices of 20c-35c-45c-60c-78c, $14,200)

LAST OF THE RED MEN (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $4,800)

LAST OF THE RED MEN (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,300)

MONSIEUR VERDOUX (UA)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $11,600)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $14,600.

BALTIMORE

Autumn weather and strong attractions are bringing out filmgoers in far better crowds than have been in evidence for quite awhile. As a result, figures are mostly better than average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,500)

DARK PASSAGE (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,500)

DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c week ends). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

FOREVER AMBER (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (47c-63c-$1.00). Gross: $34,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-40c-50c-58c: $11,750)

FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

GOLDEN EARRINGS (Para.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE YEARS BETWEEN (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,750)

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (47c-63c-$1.00). Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-44c-54c: $12,000)

ATLANTA

Business was generally above average. Weather was fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). On a moveover after one week at the Fox and two weeks at the Roxy. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,700)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)

MONSIEUR VERDOUX (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (Advanced prices: 50c-76c-$1.20) 3rd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average at regular prices of 12c-50c: $5,700)

WYOMING (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (20c-37c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,700)

Myers Lauds Rodgers

(*Continued from page* 1)

lished operating policy of theatres."

Myers said he would like to think Rodger's decision was influenced by Allied's recent declaration against increased admission prices, but admitted "that the principle that operating policies should be left to the exhibitor is so patently proper that it could occur to anyone without sideline prompting."

The Allied statement cited Judge Hand's ruling in the Paramount case that "clearance should be granted on the basis of theatre conditions which the exhibitor creates, not the distributor," and declares that "not until this principle is established, with all of its implications, will free enterprise be the rule of the motion picture business.

"Rodgers took a long step in the right direction, far beyond any of his competitors, when he uttered the simple truism that 'the exhibitor knows best,'" Myers added.

Bassett to Monogram

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 28.—Roy Bassett, formerly with Republic, has joined Howard Stubbins' sales force in the Monogram exchange here, replacing Henry Balk who recently moved to San Francisco where he has entered another business.

To Reopen FWC House

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Oct. 28.—Following rebuilding at a cost of $150,000, Fox West Coast's Crest Theatre, formerly the Fairmount, will reopen here on Nov. 1 with civic ceremonies.

Capital Probe

(*Continued from page* 6)

during the summer that the industry "adopt preventive measures whenever danger threatens and abandon its delayed stable-locking tactics."

The statement criticizes "efforts of over-zealous industry executives and attorneys, and Hollywood stars, writers and hangers-on to draw red herrings over the trail." Specifically, Myers cites bringing large delegations to Washington to protest against censorship—"calculated to antagonize the committee and impress no one"—and carping at the committee's procedure.

Myers states that the way to test the committee's power to ask questions on an individual's political beliefs is to refuse to answer the question and try it in the courts, but that "in doing so it is not necessary to exhibit such truculence and flagrant contempt for the committee as was done by one witness (John Howard Lawson) yesterday."

"It was unfortunate that Eric Johnston's defense of Hollywood should have followed the Lawson episode on last night's broadcast," he said.

Rumania Bans Pictures Of 11 U.S. Films Stars

Exhibition of pictures starring 11 American screen players, including Robert Taylor and his wife, Barbara Stanwyck, has been banned by the Rumanian government, according to press dispatches reaching New York from Bucharest.

Drawn up by the Ministry of Information and Censorship, presumably because the stars had either appeared before the House Un-American Activities Committee probe in Washington or otherwise declared that they are anti-Communist, the list also includes: Ginger Rogers, Sonja Henie, Greta Garbo, Clark Gable, Wallace Beery, Robert Montgomery, Adolphe Menjou, George Murphy and Pat O'Brien.

Organizations Cited

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Among numerous organizations which have been cited before the House Un-American Activities Committee today as either Communist or Communist "fronts" were: New Theatre League; Hollywood Democratic Committee; Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, and the Theatre Arts Committee of the American League for Peace and Democracy.

Blumberg-Rank Sale Drive Ends Saturday

Universal-International's "Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Sales Drive" will be concluded Saturday.

Minneapolis branch, headed by Leroy J. Miller now holds first place among the branches; Detroit, headed by Ben J. Robins is second, and Albany, headed by Eugene Vogel is third. The district headed by Manny Gottlieb is in first place among the districts, to date; the Western division, headed by C. J. Feldman, holds the lead among the divisions. Mark Holstein, Dallas; Judd Parker, Boston, and Milton Zimmerman, Detroit, are the leading salesmen so far.

... and great Box Office, too!

"'LOVE FROM A STRANGER' is an exciting compact melodrama!" — SIDNEY SKOLSKY'S COLUMN

Goldwyn Defends

(*Continued from page 1*)

sions are the answer to the loss of foreign revenue, he added that no producer would ask increased prices unless a picture warrants it and the public wants it.

"It is the public that makes the decision," he maintained, asserting that "they would rather pay $1.25 and be entertained, than 80 cents and be bored."

Stressing that production costs today are the greatest in history, he declared that any picture costing $3,000,000 must get back $6,000,000 from the domestic market to break even.

Exhibitor Cooperation Needed

With the end of war-boom prosperity, the industry is facing a crisis, Goldwyn said, because the public "is in no mood to accept warmed-over, hand-me-down pictures of mediocre quality." As a result, two alternatives face producers: they can either make quickies "in which quality would be strangled," or they can set themselves "for the hard pull of turning out pictures of outstanding quality." The latter alternative requires not only every bit of a "producer's tallent, energy, time and money, but also—and I cannot stress this too much—the active cooperation of the exhitor."

Goldwyn warned that exhibitors must realize "they are in partnership with Hollywood. They simply cannot continue their practice of the past of making profits by squeezing producers on terms." He said that a "pattern of monopoly has developed in exhibition not only from the control exercised by the circuits affiliated with some of the major producers but also from the building up of smaller exhibition monopolies which are copying the practices of the larger circuits. The purpose obviously is to squeeze the producer a little harder. This will eventually result in the ruin of both exhibitor and producer," said Goldwyn.

Quality Will Bring Response

It is up to producers and exhibitors alike, Goldwyn added, "to meet the situation squarely by working together to give the public more than ever before in quality. Only if we do this, can we expect the public to respond with the grosses which we all need to keep the industry healthy."

Goldwyn said he expects to make three pictures next year and that on April 1, shooting will start on two of four films now in preparation. These four are: "Earth and High Heaven," "Take Three Tenses," "Billion Dollar Baby" and "Secrets."

He said that in his opinion the day of the spectacle has passed and "warmth and heart-appeal" is the thing. On filming in New York, Goldwyn's view is that "you cannot make pictures in New York as cheaply as in Hollywood, but it helps to shoot sequences here if need be."

Goldwyn will leave for England on Dec. 12 to attend the Royal Command Performance of his "The Bishop's Wife" in London.

To Fete Judge Leibowitz

Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, prominent attorney, jurist and leader in Jewish affairs, here, will be honored by B'nai B'rith's Cinema Lodge at the Hotel Astor here on Nov. 6, Robert M. Weitman, Lodge president, announces. Robert Merrill, Metropolitan Opera star, and Barney Ross will appear on the program.

Review

"Linda Be Good"

(*Eagle Lion*)

Hollywood, Oct. 28

A COMEDY drama, with farcical shadings here and there, this is a lively paced, neat little package of entertainment that ought to fit into any program with profit. A Noel Clarke production, it has been cast capably and produced with care by Matty Kemp.

Starring Elyse Knox, Marie Wilson and John Hubbard, it is the veteran comedienne Miss Wilson, reverting to the dumb-bunny technique, who steals the spotlight. She portrays a burlesque queen, short on the "IQ" side, but long as a wolf whistle target, with a generous display of her well turned leg and torso throughout most of the screen story's action. Her familiar wisecracks and lame-brain naivete provide much of the film's highest hilarity.

Elyse Knox shows continued improvement as an actress in her role as an authoress-wife who provides the comedy crux of the plot when she decides to get material for a new book at firsthand, by joining a burlesque troupe! John Hubbard, a personable actor, does a well-nigh perfect job with his portrayal of the young businessman husband of Elyse.

As an authoress, Miss Knox is turning out dull tomes on the love lives of amoeba and Eskimos that prove to be consistent "worst-sellers." When she meets burlesque queen Miss Wilson, who gives her monosyllabic advice that she ought to write about the life around her, she decides to give it a try. While her husband is on an extended business trip she joins the chorus of the Follies, in which Marie is the soubrette. Without knowing it, she meets the husband's boss while on a night-clubbing tour. When later the boss, having called the husband to Chicago to help put over a deal, takes both the client and husband to see the Follies, the latter is dumbfounded to see his wife cavorting in the chorus.

After all is finally explained, with some of the film's most laughable farcical touches, the wife writes a best-seller this time, and induces the chorus girl chasing boss to give her husband the firm's vice-presidency.

In the theatre sequences of the screen story four lively numbers are sung, best of which is a provocative ditty, "My Mother Says I Mustn't" by Miss Wilson. Sir Lancelot, famed calypso singer imported to Hollywood from Trinidad, sings two native numbers as an orchestra leader in the nightclub scenes.

Working from the screen play by Leslie Vale and George Halasz, who adapted the original story of Dick Hyland and Howard Harris, this can be chalked up as one of the best directorial accomplishments of Frank McDonald. The selected supporting cast includes Lenny Bremen, Gordon Richards, Jack Norton, Ralph Sanford, Joyce Compton, Gerald Oliver Smith and Frank Scannell.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 8.

W. J. McGRATH

Sponsor 'Vet' Shows

Formation of the Veterans Hospital Camp Shows, Inc., to sponsor entertainment at veterans' hospitals upon the liquidation of USO-Camp Shows on Dec. 31, was announced here yesterday by the Hollywood Coordinating Committee, of which George Murphy is president. Units of paid professional performers will be organized, to be supplemented by "name" volunteers to tour the hospital circuit.

Morgan in New Post

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 28. — James Morgan has been promoted from manager of Warner's Delaware Theatre to the Madison, succeeding Sherburne Hutchinson, who has resigned. Harold Stern, assistant at the Strand, has been named manager of the Delaware. Morgan started with Warners in Utica.

Two at Raised Scale

CINCINNATI, Oct. 28.—For the first time in local theatre history, as far as is known, two pictures, "Unconquered" and "Forever Amber," are playing simultaneously at advanced prices of 75 cents and $1.19, at the RKO Capitol and Palace, respectively.

New Stage Competition

CINCINNATI, Oct. 28.—Film houses here face an additional source of competition through Stage, Inc., an acting group organized to present stage productions at popular prices, opening soon with "Dangerous Corner," now in rehearsal.

No Tax Cut

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment released another of its tax studies, this one on "Taxation of Small Business." Though the study makes no recommendations, it does indicate that the Treasury favors an attempt to equalize taxes on small unincorporated and incorporated businesses by giving them the option of using partnership tax treatment.

Under the plan, there would be no corportion income tax for firms exercising the option, but stockholders would be taxed on their proportional part of both distributed and undistributed profits. This, the Treasury explains, would eliminate double taxation of distributed profits of the corporations affected, but for such of these corporations as were owned by high-income stockholders, it would increase current taxes on undistributed profits. The study indicates the plan is especially suited to corporations that are closely held—with few stockholders and simple capital structures.

The Treasury study frowns on the proposal to allow corporate tax treatment for the reinvested earnings of unincorporated businesses. It also indicates disapproval of various schemes for granting tax exemption for small or new businesses, and concludes that it may be better for small business to look to general tax revision for aid rather than to special measures.

19 More to Academy

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Membership of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has been increased by 19, making a total of 1,844.

Fabian Calls 67

(*Continued from page 1*)

Silverstone, Nate Spingold, Joseph Bernhard, Ed Schnitzer, Joseph Seidelman, Samuel Schneider, Herman Robbins, Emil Friedlander, Henry Jaffe, B. S. Moss, William Brandt, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Ed Rugoff, Samuel Rosen, Arthur Mayer, Harry Kalmine, Emanuel Frisch, Jules Joelson, Marcus Heiman, Edward L. Hyman, William Morris, Lawrence Langner, Theresa Helburn, Jack Goetz.

Also: Sam Rinzler, William Klein, Martin Quigley, Lee Shubert, John Golden, Jack Alicoate, Jules [illegible]n, Bob Weitman, Louis Bernstein, [illegible]ck Kapp, Jack Katz, George Heller, Herman Gelber, Hi Brown, Ken Roberts, Abe Schneider, Joseph R. Vogel, Steve Broidy, Arthur Israel, Ralph Poucher, Dan Michalove, Sam Shain, Lou Novins, David Weinstock, Fred Schwartz, Leopold Friedman, Harry Mayer, Jerry Danzig, Emanuel Sachs, Jack Bregman, Abe Olman, Adolph Schimmel, Charles Boasberg and Sam Machnovitch. Judge Joseph Proskauer, a director of the Federation, will be among others expected to attend.

Schreiber and Pelegrine To Promote FJP Drive

Edward Schreiber has been appointed director of publicity and advertising for the entertainment industry's 1947 drive of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, by Si Fabian, chairman of the amusement division of the drive.

Schreiber will be assisted by Lou Pelegrine.

Spot Recordings to Aid Hospital Drive

Eddie Cantor, Raymond Massey, John Garfield, Drew Pearson, Jack Benny and Milton Berle have recorded spot appeals in behalf of the campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. They will be heard over local radio stations during the drive, ending Jan. 31.

Set Designers

(*Continued from page 1*)

ists indicate that action similar to that taken by the painters and designers may be voted on at a Thursday night meeting.

Motion to Dismiss CSU Suit To Be Heard on Nov. 17

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 28.—Federal Judge William C. Mathes yesterday continued to Nov. 17 a hearing on a motion to dismiss the damage suit brought by the Conference of Studio Unions against major studios and the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employes. At the same time, subpoenas for Spyros Skouras, Jack Cohn and John O'Connor, also defendants in the case, have been ordered quashed because service of them was made in the East, outside the jurisdiction of local courts.

Reelect Dunn Head Of Managers Guild

George Dunn has been reelected president of Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, here. Other officers reelected include Leon Kelmer, vice-president; Maxwell Levine, secretary-treasurer, and George Baldwin, recording secretary.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1947 TEN CENTS

CEA Leaders Agree U. K. Tax Must Go

MPEA-SIMPP Meet Today on Ad Valorem

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Top officials of the Motion Picture Association and the British Cinematographic Exhibitors Association agreed today that the British 75 per cent tax on U. S. film earnings must go and that they must work together to this end, but apparently made no progress toward a concrete scheme for getting rid of it.

According to the MPA, the long-delayed conference between Eric Johnston and other ranking MPA officials and CEA president B. T. Davis and general secretary Walter R. Fuller was devoted to each side stating recent developments and its own position in opposition to the film tax. Fuller and Davis made no specific proposals, MPA officials said, and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Naify Completes Golden State Deal

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 29.—Sale of the Golden State Theatres, involving 116 houses, was completed today when "Mike" Naify gained control of the huge United California Theatres, Inc. The Department of Justice, which investigated the deal, has taken no action, as Naify met the $2,500,000 down payment without the aid of the Joseph M. Schenck interests.

The possibility that Schenck and

(*Continued on page 2*)

Pennsylvania MPTO Unit Joins TOA

United Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware has voted to affiliate with the Theatre Owners of America, TOA headquarters disclosed here yesterday.

Lewen Pizor, UMPTO president, has been elected by his group to TOA's board of directors, which will meet on Nov. 7 at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago.

Chicago Amusement Tax Seen Likely

CHICAGO, Oct. 29.—By a narrow nine-to-seven vote, the license committee of the City Council here has passed the three per cent City Amusement Tax Bill and forwarded it to the City Council where action was deferred until Monday.

There is little hope held here now that the measure will be defeated, although one bright spot is in the report current that Governor Green is contemplating a special session of the state legislature in order to again take up the matter of distributing a portion of state sales tax monies to municipalities in serious financial straits. If this were done, City Hall sources say, there would be no necessity for the proposed additional tax on amusements.

In the event that no decision is forthcoming from Springfield regarding distribution of the sales tax by

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ban on Segregation In Theatres Urged

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Advocating the adoption of state laws guaranteeing all persons, regardless of color, equal access to places of public accommodation, including theatres, and a Federal law banning segregation in theatres in the District of Columbia, President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights today made public its report charted under the chairmanship of Charles E. Wilson, head of General Electric.

Canada Ticket Tax Nets 15 Millions

Ottawa, Oct. 29.—Amusement taxes in 1946 brought the Canadian government $15,024,547 in revenue from $277,420,905 in paid admissions, according to an advance bulletin on the Dominion's annual report on motion picture theatres, issued by the Bureau of Statistics. The report also disclosed that there were 1,477 theatres operating in Canada last year.

Net receipts, less admission taxes, were $59,793,215.

Democrats Plan Film Exhibition

The National Democratic Party is on the verge of entering motion picture exhibition, starting off with 4,000 brand new 16mm. projectors and at least 24 documentaries, to be shown nationally to as many public and private gatherings as possible. The deal would involve some $2,000,000, it is understood.

The basic reason, obviously, is to promote public goodwill for the party, the forthcoming presidential election year being principally in the minds of the Democratic bigwigs.

Problems of the day would be treated in the films, both economic problems and international ones—offering a wide variety of subject matter.

A deal is presently near consummation with a New York non-theatrical

(*Continued on page 2*)

TOA Confident Of Admission Tax Cut

Theatre Owners of America leaders here are confident that the House Ways and Means committee will prepare a bill calling for a substantial cut in theatre admission taxes for introduction at the next regular session of Congress, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, said here yesterday.

Coyne, who made his statement in comment on Ways and Means Committee chairman Harold Knutson's declaration that "there isn't a chance in the world" that the admission tax will be considered during the special Congressional session starting Nov. 17, cautioned, however, that "anything can happen" between now and next January in terms of a national emergency to thwart a cut in the Federal tax. He emphasized that "as things look now" TOA has the committee support it will need.

It was pointed out yesterday by Coyne that indications that the special session of Congress will not produce an admission tax cut represents no setback for TOA in its tax cut program. Noting that a special session is a comparatively recent development, he said TOA had been directing its efforts toward winning the tax cut during the regular session which will begin in January.

Early this week, with this plan in mind, Coyne and Ted R. Gamble, TOA president, conferred with Treasury Department officials to determine what possible cut in admission taxes the national economy could bear. Gamble is on record as recommending a reduction of at least 50 per cent.

Probe Set to Focus On Scripts, Films

Thomas Says '2nd Phase' Of Investigation Pends

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29. — Chairman J. Parnell Thomas today promised a "second phase" of the investigation into alleged Communist activity in Hollywood when his committee will publicly "go into" scripts and films.

He also promised the appearance on Thursday or Friday of a "prominent witness," unnamed, who would testify on some of the 20 to 25 scripts now being analyzed by committee investigators.

The Motion Picture Association, which has several times publicly invited the committee to view "any suspect" films, said late this afternoon that it had received no request from the committee to view any films.

Thomas' third promise today was that by the end of the week the list of 79 alleged Communists in the industry would be made public.

The chairman's triple play came af-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Johnston Blasts Probe on Radio

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—In a nationwide broadcast over Columbia Broadcasting System tonight Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, made another plea for fair play. He charged that the House Un-American Activities committee investigation is creating the impression that Hollywood is dominated by Communists. This he called "unfair and un-American."

Johnston reiterated the industry's intention to insist upon the right to

(*Continued on page 5*)

Program Completed For Variety Meet

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 29.—The local committee of the Variety Club of Oklahoma, of which Ralph Talbot is chairman, has completed its schedule of events and entertainment for the two-day combination national Variety officers' meeting and presentation of a

(*Continued on page 2*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, and WILLIAM SAAL, his executive assistant, left Hollywood yesterday by plane for New York.

•

TONY STERN, Warner film buyer, and his wife, MRS. CHARLOTTE STERN, will be guests of the Cleveland Variety Club Nov. 1 at a social supper.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, SR., president of Malco Theatres in Memphis, has been named head of a theatre group to advance the Government's food conservation plan.

•

FRANK SOULE, supervisor of exchanges for Eagle Lion, has returned to New York from San Francisco and Dallas.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern and Canadian sales manager for Warner, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, are in Boston.

•

NORMAN W. ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, left here for Mexico yesterday.

•

TOMMY BALDRIDGE, publicity and advertising director for Flexer Theatres in Memphis, has resigned.

•

ROLAND GAMMON has resigned as manager of Margaret Ettinger and Co.

DeMille High Price Policy to Continue

Current advanced admission sales policy on Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" will be continued indefinitely, Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president of Paramount, announced here yesterday. Reagan also said the national release date of "Road to Rio" with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour, has been set for Dec. 25.

To expedite plans for booking "Unconquered" and to complete plans for national release of "Road to Rio" Reagan and Paramount Sales Executive E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, will hold a series of meetings with all divisional and branch sales managers. These meetings will commence in New York today, when Reagan and O'Shea meet with Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern divisional sales manager, and all his branch managers.

Next Tuesday they will meet in Pittsburgh with Earl Sweigert, Mid-Eastern divisional sales manager, and his branch managers. Next Thursday they will meet in Chicago with James J. Donohue, Central division sales manager and his managers, and on Nov. 14 Reagan and O'Shea will meet in Kansas City with George A. Smith, Western divisional manager and his managers.

Name 8 Pa. Theatres In Percentage Suits

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 29.—Naming Margaret Moody, Charles W. Dickinson and Don G. Dickinson as defendants, eight distributing companies today filed separate percentage suits in U. S. District Court here. The complaints are similar to those filed in various other Federal courts throughout the country.

Suits were brought by Columbia, Universal, United Artists, Paramount, M-G-M, Warners, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio. Theatres involved, all in Pennsylvania, are: the Bison, Plaza and Strand in Brownsville; the Menlo, Charleroi; American in Vestaburg; the Grand and Frederick in Fredericktown, and the Nemacolin in Nemacolin.

James H. Beal and James R. Orr of the Pittsburgh law firm of Reed, Smith, Shaw and McClay, represent all of the plaintiffs, except M-G-M, which is represented by John G. Buchanan and David B. Buerger of Smith, Buchanan and Ingersoll. Sargoy and Stein of New York are also of counsel for the plaintiffs.

Says Fabian Didn't Cancel 'Amber'

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 29.—Warner theatre officials denied today that "Forever Amber" had been switched to Warners' Troy at Troy, N. Y., from Fabian's Proctor in that city, as previously reported. Warners and Fabian have a 50-50 split of 20th Century-Fox product and Warners said it had "Amber" for Troy from the outset.

"As a matter of fact," a Warner spokesman said, "we gave the Proctor 'I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now' because it was short of product."

It had been reported that the Proctor booked that picture in place of "Amber." Troy papers have refused "Amber" advertising, the Warner official confirmed.

Kusell, MacNamara To Tour Exchanges

Milton S. Kusell, distribution vice-president for the Selznick Releasing Organization, will leave New York today for a two weeks' nationwide tour of SRO exchanges.

First stop will be Chicago. He will then visit Seattle, where he will be joined by Paul MacNamara, SRO director of advertising-publicity. Then, while in Hollywood, Kusell and MacNamara, in conferences with Selznick, Daniel T. O'Shea and E. L. Scanlon, will put final touches to a promotional campaign for "The Paradine Case."

WB To Pay on Loan One Year Ahead

Warners has called for payment on Nov. 28, the $1,591,000 installment due Nov. 1, 1948 on its two per cent term bank loan.

The board of directors, at a meeting here yesterday, declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on the common stock, payable on Jan. 5, to stockholders of record on Dec. 5.

Democrats' Plans

(*Continued from page 1*)

firm to produce the films, mostly short subjects. It would also supply the projectors in a package arrangement providing for a contract of purchase from a 16mm. projector manufacturer.

The projectors would be loaned to political, public and private clubs and to other places of group assemblage. The non-theatrical firm involved would handle physical distribution, in a manner yet to be determined. The entire program would run over a two-year period, and the films would be rent-free.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—A spokesman for the Democratic National Committee admits that a deal along the lines mentioned above has been "suggested," but says that no action is likely before mid-November.

Naify Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

the United Artist Theatres circuit might be behind Naify caused the Department of Justice, in light of the New York Federal Court decree in the industry's anti-trust suit, to investigate.

Three major circuits, the Golden State, San Francisco Theatres, and the T. and D., Jr., Enterprises, are now under the sole direction of Naify interests, but Charles Skouras, president of Fox West Coast Theatres, is still a substantial stockholder.

Dezel Drops Classics Name in His Areas

Al Dezel, president of Albert Dezel Productions, arrived in New York yesterday from Detroit to confer with Joseph Bernhard, Film Classics head, and agreed to relinquish the Film Classics name in Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati territories where he operates.

Dezel, however, will retain rights to all F-C films currently in his possession, until 1950. This includes Goldwyn, Hal Roach and Selznick reissues. As a result of the deal, Dezel will release that product under the name of Screen Guild. Film Classics will set up its own exchanges in the three territories, Bernhard said.

March of Time to Feature Films

In 1948 the March of Time, which has for 13 years produced two-reel series, will co-produce feature films, Richard De Rochemont announced. March of Time's facilities will be available to West Coast or independent producers who may have directors, stars, or story properties that they wish to use in productions shot in the East.

Theatre Gutted by Fire

ROCKINGHAM, N. C., Oct. 29.—The Marcilla Theatre, two miles south of Rockingham, owned by Coronet Amusement Co., was gutted by fire. Some $500 in the cash register was burned. Total loss will be around $20,000.

French Production At Low Ebb: Tual

High costs and an electricity shortage will combine to reduce French production this winter to a virtual standstill, Denise Tual, production director of Synops, French producing company, said here yesterday.

Mme. Tual, who is here studying American reactions to French films, called for the U. S. industry to cooperate with France, and make pictures jointly. She emphasized t[illegible] the French industry needs the Ame[illegible]can market.

French exhibitors, she said, are more anxious to show American films than native product because French distributors usually ask for financial advances on their pictures whereas American films can be obtained without them.

Variety Program

(*Continued from page 1*)

plaque to the memory of Will Rogers, on Monday and Tuesday, at Tulsa and Claremore.

International officers and chief barkers from tents in the U. S., Canada and Mexico will arrive on Sunday, and on Monday morning will register at meeting headquarters in the Mayo Hotel in Tulsa. A mid-season business session will start at 10:00 A.M., to be followed by a luncheon, after which the business session will be resumed. Bob Hope and members of his broadcast group will be guests of Variety at dinner and entertainment that evening.

On Tuesday, a luncheon will be given for the visiting Variety officers and representatives at the Will Rogers Memorial Lodge in Claremore, and at which wives of officers and the Hope group will also be guests. Gov. Roy Turner, Edgar Guest, Hope and Variety chiefs will parade to the Rogers memorial, where Turner and Guest will speak and a Variety Rogers Memorial placque will be unveiled.

Following are the Variety officers, chief barkers and tent representatives who are scheduled to attend, among others:

R. J. O'Donnell, international chief barker; John H. Harris, international big boss; Marc Wolf, dough guy; Chick Lewis, publicity and convention director; William McGraw, executive director; C. J. Latta, assistant chief barker; Jack Beresin, property master; Irving Mack, field representative; Charles P. Skouras, chief barker and field representative.

Also, J. J. Fitzgibbons, chief barker of Toronto and field representative; Luis Montes, Mexico City chief barker; Herbert Kohn, Memphis; Milt Tarloff, Toledo; R. Clifton Daniel, Pittsburgh; Rudy Frank, New Haven; Myron Gross, Buffalo; Fred Schanberger, Baltimore; Sam Switow, Indianapolis; Nathan Golden, Washington; John A. Branton, Minneapolis; Alfred Davis, Philadelphia; Bill O'Donnell, Dallas; Murray Weiss, Boston; J. B. Dumestre, Atlanta; Clive Waxman, Grand Rapids; Moe Horowitz, Cleveland; George Hoover, Miami; Neil Hellman, Albany; Abe Blumenfeld, San Francisco, and Frank Beddingfield and Meyer Stern.

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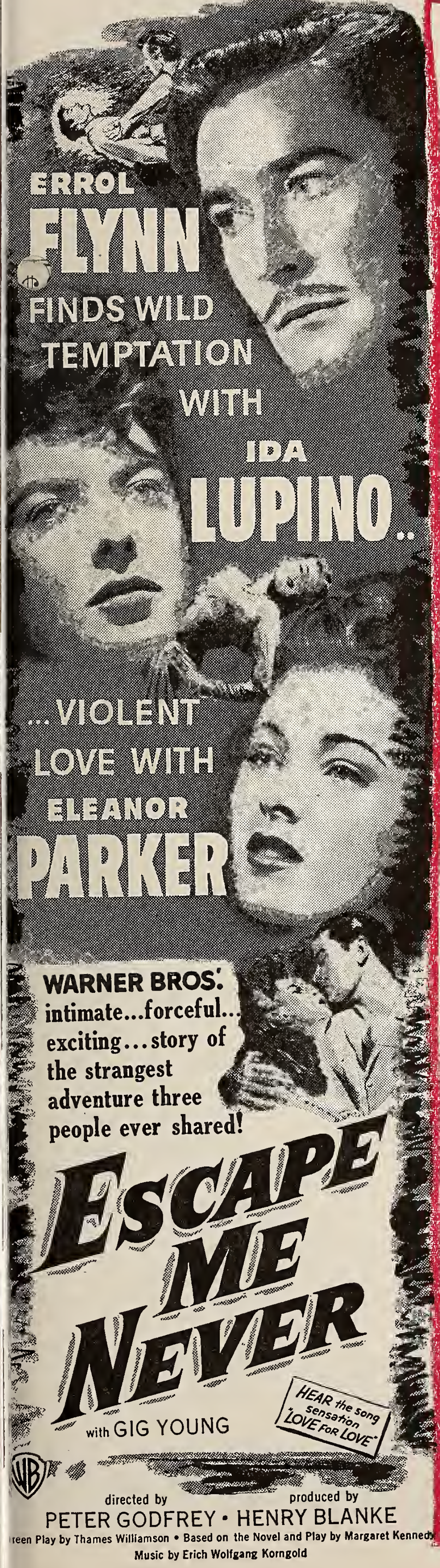


ERROL
FLYNN
FINDS WILD
TEMPTATION
WITH
IDA
LUPINO..

...VIOLENT
LOVE WITH
ELEANOR
PARKER

WARNER BROS.'
intimate...forceful...
exciting...story of
the strangest
adventure three
people ever shared!

ESCAPE ME NEVER

with GIG YOUNG

HEAR the song sensation "LOVE FOR LOVE"

directed by
PETER GODFREY • produced by
HENRY BLANKE
reen Play by Thames Williamson • Based on the Novel and Play by Margaret Kenned
Music by Erich Wolfgang Korngold

FOLLOWS "THAT HAGEN GIRL"---
----"DARK PASSAGE"------
"THE UNSUSPECTED"---- To be
followed by "MY WILD IRISH ROSE"
color by Technicolor

---- and
all
the
time...

all
over
the
land

"LIFE WITH FATHER"
color by Technicolor

From
Warner Bros.

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

Capital Probe

(Continued from page 1)

ter a day when the committee had heard a prominent writer and a prominent producer deny any effective Communist activity in Hollywood. On the eighth day of the hearings the committee had also recommended for contempt of Congress four writers who were identified as Communists by committee investigators.

Dore Schary, RKO executive in charge of production, told the committee that he "did not know of any subversive films ever made."

Declaring he thought there were Communists in Hollywood, Schary said: "I don't think they have any weight either in organizations or in the actual things that get on the screen."

Schary Would Rehire Eisler

Asked repeatedly by both Thomas and chief investigator Robert Stripling if he would rehire former RKO employee Hanns Eisler, film composer recently investigated by the committee, Schary answered that as long as a man was not proven to be an agent of a foreign government, "he would not hesitate to rehire him."

Schary declared he has been opposed to Communism and has fought it, but that he did not consider it as great a danger as some people in the United States thought it.

Stripling followed with questions about RKO's production of "Rachel," written by Howard Fast, whom Stripling called "a publicly avowed Communist." Schary replied the story was "very charming, and not political."

In an opening statement today Thomas declared that the spotlight his committee had put on Communist activity in Hollywood would not be turned off "until all the Communists in Hollywood are exposed. The committee is well aware," he stated, "that powerful influences have sought in every manner to divert this committee from its main course of inquiry."

But, he maintained, he was "proud to say that this committee has not been swayed, intimidated or influenced by either Hollywood glamour, pressure groups, threatened ridicule, or high-pressure tactics on the part of high-paid puppets and apologists for certain elements of the moving picture industry."

In the first week, Thomas continued, the committee had before it some of "our most prominent producers, directors, writers and actors."

These people, "are the ones who levelled the charges," he said, not the committee.

Emmett Lavery, president of the Screen Writers Guild, told the committee that, although he did not deny the presence of Communists in the Guild "who would probably like to control it," the committee should not "rate their efforts too high."

The playwright and screen writer emphasized that Communists did not have control of the Guild.

Lavery asked the committee to recall Jack Warner to the stand and subpoena all pertinent records of Warner Brothers Studio in order to show that Lavery left the studio at his own request.

He also requested the opportunity to reply to three witnesses who testified last week.

He said that Morrie Ryskind charged the SWG had been "Communist under Lavery's leadership," that Rupert Hughes implied Lavery was a "Communist masquerading as a Catholic," that Jack Moffitt "seriously misinterpreted" Lavery's play, "The Gentleman from Athens."

Thomas replied that the committee would take his requests under advisement.

Denies He Is Communist

Early in his testimony Lavery volunteered the information that he was not a Communist.

Previously, Thomas had ordered off the stand two witnesses who evaded the questions on their SWG membership and their Communist Party affiliation. Screen writer Samuel Ornitz and writer-director Herbert Biberman were recommended by the subcommittee for contempt charges.

At the close of his testimony Lavery suggested to the committee that funds be allotted to permit the Library of Congress to hold an international film festival here in order that people everywhere "can understand really what the creative force in pictures is in the world today."

First witness of the day, writer Ornitz, was refused permission to read a statement when Thomas called it "just another case of vilification."

An investigator declared that his investigations had disclosed a Communist Party card for 1944 in the name of "Samuel O.," and a seven-page committee record on Ornitz's activities was put into the record.

Biberman, another "hostile" witness, followed Ornitz to the stand and was also denied permission to read a prepared statement.

When asked the two pertinent questions, Biberman replied that the committee's purpose "was to use the inquiry to disrupt the motion picture industry."

The committee's afternoon recommendations for contempt of Congress charges went to director Edward Dmytryk and producer Adrian Scot

This brings the total for the week eight, leaving eight more "hostile" witnesses still to come.

Both Dmytryk and Scott parried answers to questions on Guild membership and the Communist Party. Both were ordered off the stand and were followed by an investigator, who produced evidence of alleged party cards for the two.

(When asked later by Stripling if he would continue to employ Scott and Dmytryk, RKO executive Schary replied they were under contract, that they had at no time made subversive remarks or attempted to yet anything subversive on the screen, that it would be "a terrible shock if he found out they were foreign agents.")

Late today a statement decrying the committee was issued here signed by Bosley Crowther, *New York Times* film critic; Louis Calhern; John Gunther; Deems Taylor; Louis Kronenberger, *PM* theatre critic; Richard Watts, Jr., *New York Post* drama critic; Oscar Hammerstein; Moss Hart; and George Kaufman.

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

Washington, Oct. 29

"LET me break the suspense. I am not a Communist, never have been and don't intend to be," Emmett Lavery, president of the Screen Writers Guild told the House Un-American Activities Committee today without hesitation. And, because he did, he turned out to be first witness who was successful in spreading on the lengthening record of these hearings partial rebuttal, at least, to some of the direct testimony accepted from earlier witnesses who had appeared for the committee.

Aside from Albert Maltz, one of the "hostile" witnesses who had been permitted to read his prepared statement Tuesday and thereby got over the over-all viewpoint of the resisting Hollywood group of writers and directors who hold the Thomas Committee to be unconstitutional, this morning marked the first time that the curtain, regardless of how incomplete it may be, was raised on the other side of the story.

•

Lavery was excellent. Calm and always conveying an impression of a reasoned and reasonable approach, he denied the Screen Writers Guild was under Communist control, while admitting there are some Communists in its ranks.

Striking for strict adherence to constitutional formula, he declared: "If there are any offenders in the Guild, it is for the FBI and the legal processes to act after a complaint is made. Such a function is not up to the Guild."

•

The SWG president took the position that this was the time to take positive action on the question of Communism by making more films showing the American way of life to be more attractive and in this regard, joined up with a number of earlier witnesses, such as Ronald Reagan and Gary Cooper, who had expressed the identical thoughts before the committee.

•

Witness Lavery: "I'm here three ways—as a member of the New York Bar, for myself and as counsel for myself and as the only authorized representative of the SWG."

Chief Investigator Stripling: "You're here because you were subpoenaed."

Lavery: "I would have been here anyway."

•

"Religion has entered these hearings," asserted Lavery over Thomas' disavowal. "Rupert Hughes was permitted to testify last week that I was a Communist parading as a Catholic."

•

"You are a liberal," said Rep. McDowell to Lavery, "and liberals are a part of the American tradition."

Fast on the heels of this, the committee member then asserted on his own behalf: "I am not a liberal."

•

This observation of Herbert Biberman, later recommended for a contempt citation, drew a laugh: "I would be very suspicious of any question out of my mouth that pleased this committee."

•

Dore Schary, executive in charge of RKO Radio production, drew heavy applause when he said: "Up until a man is proven a Communist dedicated to the overthrow of the Government by force, I cannot make any other decision (to employ him) except on the basis of whether he is qualified to do the job. The president, the board (of RKO) and myself would have to decide as a matter of policy, but speaking personally, this is how I feel."

•

Thomas charged the Committee for the First Amendment with attempts "to bowl over a committee of Congress who dared to spotlight Communist foreign agents operating within their very industry."

This is the Hollywood group, headed by Humphrey Bogart and John Huston which flew to Washington by chartered plane and waged its campaign of attrition in the newspapers but never in the hearing chamber where its conduct was beyond criticism.

While this group's position was identical with that of the 19 hostile witnesses on Constitutional rights, no connection between them was ever established. In fact, it was disavowed by the Bogart contingent at every turn.

Sorrell Demands He Be Heard by Probe

Washington, Oct. 29.—Conference of Studio Unions president Herbert K. Sorrell, Hollywood, last night telegraphed chairman J. Parnell Thomas of the House Un-American Activities Committee, demanding that he be subpoenaed and given an opportunity to refute the testimony of IATSE's Roy Brewer and Walt Disney, and to "tell what I know about who actually is responsible for Communism in the industry."

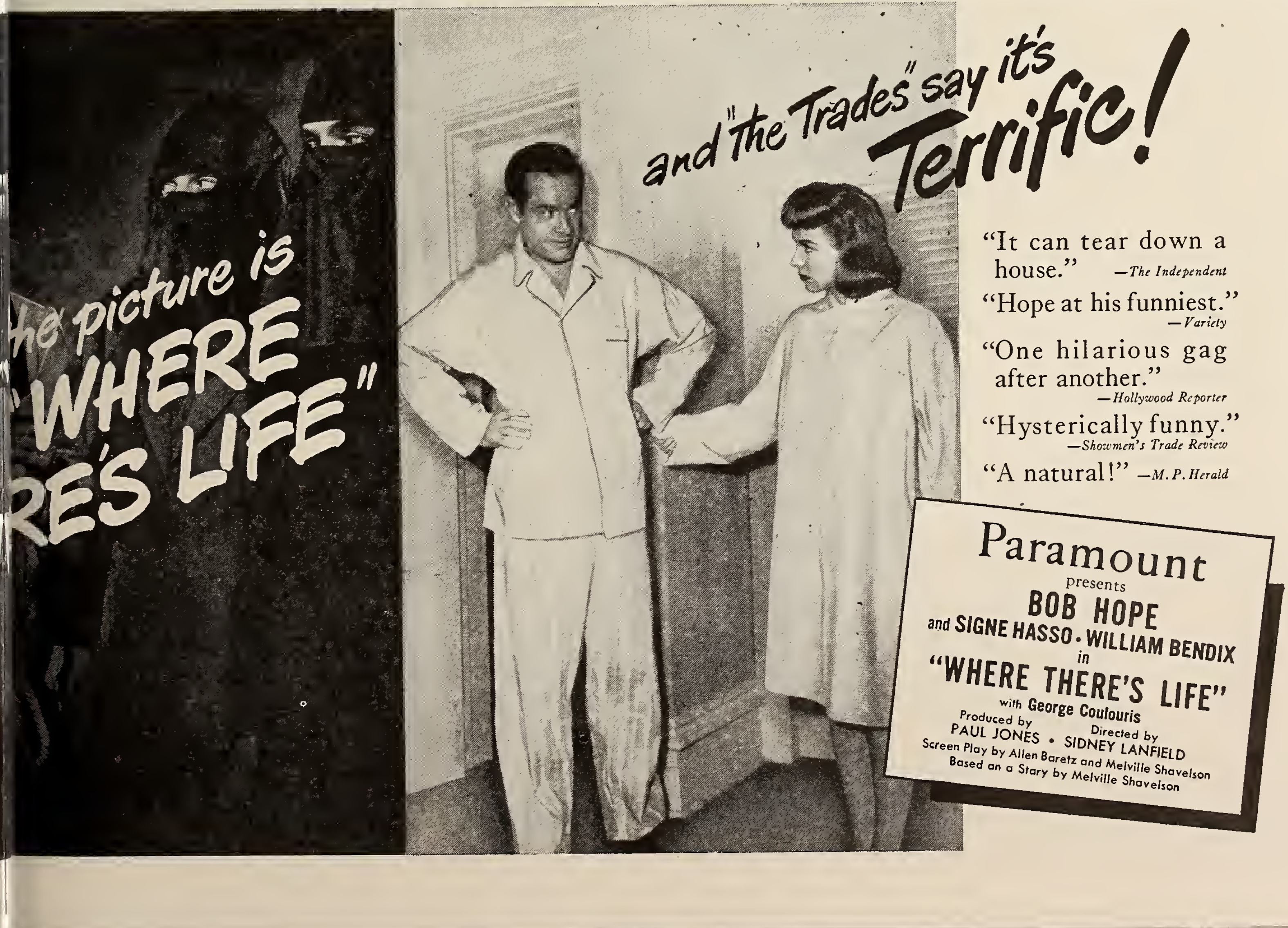
Committee investigator Robert Stripling said today that he has not seen the telegram from Sorrell yet, but sees no reason why he would not be called to appear.

Johnston Speech

(*Continued from page* 1)

decide what will or will not go into motion pictures. "We shall always fight for this principle," he said.

In addition, the MPA president declared that Chairman J. Parnell Thomas devoted himself to a long vilification of the industry in today's hearing. Thomas was excoriated for "mentioning no names and presenting no facts." Describing this procedure as "incredible," Johnston said, "I believe it reflects on the committee and in turn on Congress itself."



"It can tear down a house." —*The Independent*

"Hope at his funniest." —*Variety*

"One hilarious gag after another." —*Hollywood Reporter*

"Hysterically funny." —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"A natural!" —*M. P. Herald*

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presents
BOB HOPE
and SIGNE HASSO • WILLIAM BENDIX
in
"WHERE THERE'S LIFE"
with George Coulouris
Produced by PAUL JONES • Directed by SIDNEY LANFIELD
Screen Play by Allen Baretz and Melville Shavelson
Based on a Story by Melville Shavelson

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 28		GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)		ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)			(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min. (905)	LOVE FROM A STRANGER John Hodiak Sylvia Sydney D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo C—91 min. (801) (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751) (Rev. 10/7/47)	(Block 1) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)		
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER O—55 min. (961) BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton C—69 min. (911)	RETURN OF THE LASH Al St. John O	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/29/47)			THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)		SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Oct. 19	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D—66 min. (Rev. 9/26/47) GUN LAW Al "Lash" La Rue O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O		ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)		FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 26	DOWN TO EARTH (Color) Rita Hayworth Larry Parks D—101 min. (930) (Rev. 8/29/47)	BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O	SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/28/47)		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev.10/20/41)	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)		(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Nov. 2	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (981) (Rev. 10/7/47)	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47)	(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)	MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)	(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (625) (Rev. 9/10/47)	(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	CHEYENNE TAKES OVER Al "Lash" La Rue O RETURN OF RIN TIN TIN	DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (807) (Rev. 9/26/47)			THE FABULOUS TEXAN William Elliott O—95 min. (624)		NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D—111 min. (Rev. 10/9/47)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft George Brent D—90 min. (Rev. 10/29/47)	WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D—83 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D	(Nov. Release) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 nuin. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47) BOWERY BUCKAROOS C—65 min. (625) (Rev. 10/20/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)	UNDER COLORADO SKIES (Color) Monte Hale O—65 min. (652)	(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D	FOREVER AMBER (Color) Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D—138 min. (733) (Rev. 10/9/47)			ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D—103 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D			THE RED HORNET D		THE FLAME John Carroll Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)	DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (Rev. 9/29/47)	THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	(Nov. Releases) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47) (Enterprise)	(Nov. Releases) THE EXILE Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maria Montez D—95 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	
Nov. 30			(Dec. Releases) KILLER McCOY Mickey Rooney Brian Donlevy D—105 min. (Rev. 10/27/47)	THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D		SLIPPY McGEE Donald Barry Dale Evans	DESIGN FOR DEATH (Documentary)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)	BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)	THE UPTURNED GLASS James Mason D—87 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)	
Dec. 7			GOOD NEWS (Color) June Allyson Peter Lawford D			THE GAY RANCHERO (Color) Roy Rogers O		(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)			

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dr*[illegible] *(M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* **Motion Picture Daily Review** [illegible]]

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Fun and Fancy Free", sole newcomer on the first-run front, got off to a lusty start in four theatres. Indian summer still prevailed, keeping afternoons a bit warm for going indoors but chilling the evenings to box-office taste. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 29:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,300)
CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,300)
DARK PASSAGE (WB) — WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,300)
DARK PASSAGE (WB) — WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,400)
DARK PASSAGE (WB) — WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,600)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $13,900)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $13,800)
DESIRE ME (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $21,200)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,500)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,700)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox) and THE INVISIBLE WALL (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,700)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox) and THE INVISIBLE WALL (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,800)
FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio-Disney) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA-Comet)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,600)
FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio-Disney) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA-Comet)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,000)
FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio-Disney) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA-Comet)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,300)
FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio-Disney) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA-Comet) — VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,500)
LURED (UA-Stromberg)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,600)
LURED (UA-Stromberg)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,300)
LURED (UA-Stromberg)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,200)
LURED (UA-Stromberg)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,300)
RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.) — GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100)
RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100)
RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,300) e
RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,900)
RIDE THE PINK HORSE (U-I) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.) — UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,400)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $21,000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE WOMEN (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,400)

CHICAGO

"Forever Amber" is registering impressively. Business in most first-runs are holding up well. Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 30:

DESERT FURY (Para.)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000)
FOREVER AMBER (20th-Fox)—STATE LAKE (2,700) ($1.25). Gross: $63,000. (Average: $30,000)
THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,000)
FUN AND FANCY FREE (RKO Radio) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $26,000)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,500)
HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIR (Col.)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Frankie Laine. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $40,000)
MAGIC TOWN (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,080) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,500)
MONSIEUR VERDOUX (UA)—GRAND (1,150) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,000)
UNCONQUERED (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) ($1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $39,000. (Average: $25,500)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 3rd week. On stage: Frankie Carle. Gross: $49,000. (Average: $52,000)

Chicago Tax Likely

(*Continued from page* 1)

Monday, and the local tax bill is passed, as expected, Alderman Duffy has placed himself on record as entering a motion that the amusement tax be rescinded effective immediately upon notification of financial aid from the state. This motion was carried unanimously.

CEA Leaders

(*Continued from page* 1)

discussion of proposals already made public was only in the most general terms. Sir Alexander King's proposal, made several weeks ago during the British official's visit to the U. S., was not even brought up.

The spotlight now turns to tomorrow's meeting between the MPEA executive committee and top officials of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. The two British officials are remaining here through Friday, and may be called in during tomorrow's MPEA-SIMPP session.

Industry Leaders to Attend

Attending the meeting, in addition to Johnston, will be: Donald M. Nelson, president of SIMPP and a member of the executive committee, who will also bring James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., and Milton Kramer, board chairman of Selznick Releasing Organization; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew-M-G-M; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal - International, accompanied by J. Cheever Cowdin; Jack Cohn, Columbia, with A. Schneider; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Samuel Schneider, Warners; Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio; Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists; Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists; Milton Kramer, SRO, and James Mulvey, Goldwyn. Also, Francis Harmon, MPEA vice-president; Allen Dulles and Edward Cohn, both of the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell, New York; Gerald Mayer, MPA's international department head, and Joyce O'Hara, Johnston's aide.

There was some indication that more concrete results from the Fuller-Davis trip might be forthcoming at a luncheon to be given for the two British delegates by presidents of the major companies in New York, at the weekend or on Monday, either at the Harvard Club or the Hotel Astor.

"Things Remain As They Were"

Fuller and Davis had a two-hour luncheon meeting at MPA headquarters with Johnston, Harmon, Mayer and O'Hara. After that broke up, they met further with Mayer and MPA publicity man Tom Waller.

"All we agreed on," one official said, "was that we opposed the tax and Sir Stafford Cripps opposed a freeze. That leaves things exactly where they were."

MPEA Sets Up New Executive Group

Nine company presidents and executives named as directors-at-large of the Motion Picture Export Association, forming a new executive committee to act with dispatch on basic policy questions, have been voted by the directorate of the MPEA. The new executive group will meet periodically with Eric A. Johnston, MPEA and Motion Picture Association president.

Comprising the new committee are Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, Steve Broidy, Jack Cohn, Ned E. Depinet, Nicholas M. Schenck, Samuel Schneider, Gradwell Sears and Spyros P. Skouras.

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BOSTON TERRITORY ONLY
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UPTOWN THEATRE
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"Michael Curtiz' direction moves with speed and skill."
—*Eileen Creelman*
N. Y. Sun

"Loaded with thrills and suspense . . ."
—*Variety*

"Michael North . . . the draw card."
—*Lee Mortimer*
N. Y. Daily Mirror

"'THE UNSUSPECTED'

IS A
LIVE-WIRE TINGLER . . . BEST VIEWED FROM THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT!"
—*Walter Winchell*

A

Michael Curtiz Production

starring

JOAN **CAULFIELD** • CLAUDE **RAINS** • AUDREY **TOTTER** • CONSTANCE **BENNETT** • HURD **HATFIELD**

and Introducing

MICHAEL NORTH

"Best picture of the week."
—*Jimmie Fidler*

"A slick film thriller!"
—*Kate Cameron*
N. Y. Daily News

Directed by

MICHAEL CURTIZ

Produced by Charles Hoffman • Screenplay by Ranald MacDougall • Adaptation by Bess Meredyth • From a story by Charlotte Armstrong

Warner Bros. Release

"A nerve-tingling chiller . . ."
—*BOXOFFICE*

"Claude Rains intriguing as the radio ghoul . . ."
—*Bosley Crowther*
N. Y. Times

"Exceptionally well done . . ."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

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VOL. 62. NO. 86 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1947 TEN CENTS

Justice Dep't Consulted on UK Tax Issue

MPA Aims to Avoid Trust Violation in Settlement

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The industry called in two top Justice Department officials today to make sure that any scheme it works out to solve the British *ad valorem* tax deadlock will not fall afoul of the U. S. anti-trust laws.

However, at the end of a day-long meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association executive committee and top figures of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and others, indications were that solution was still not immediately in view.

At the invitation of MPEA president Eric A. Johnston, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the anti-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Income Firm: Goldenson

Grosses at theatres of Paramount partners, affiliates and subsidiaries are standing up firmly, Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., declared here yesterday. He credited impressive current returns to good product from all film companies. Fall business is running within 10 per cent of the peak of last year, he said. He preferred not to venture a prediction on future

(*Continued on page 6*)

U. S. Companies Face Higher Italian Tax

Rome, Oct. 27 (By Airmail). —Italy's "tax on wealth," announced last March, has been altered by a new law which scales down the amount to be paid by native companies but which may increase the taxes which American companies must pay on their blocked film accounts.

The new law does away with the proportional taxes and provides that all companies—including foreign—must pay a tax of four per cent. Blocked accounts of investments are subject to the tax.

Studio Carpenters Retain Picket Line

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—While the studio carpenters' union membership remained adamant in its position on the studio jurisdictional strife by voting to maintain its picket lines, the machinists' local was preparing to vote tonight on the latest sign of defection in the year-long dispute with IATSE over studio set erection jobs. The issue before the machinists, as before the carpenters, is that of permitting its members to return to studio employment if financial stress makes their return necessary.

Screen Set Designers Local No. 1421, and before it, painters Local No. 644, has already voted overwhelmingly to permit needy members to seek employment in the studios without penalty or prejudice. Officially, however, both locals have resolved to maintain the strike status until all of their respective members are reinstated and contract and bargain-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Advisors to Report On Tax Cut Monday

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—A detailed report by the 10-man advisory committee to the House Ways and Means Committee on taxation revision will be made public Monday after it is read and discussed by the House group.

Ways and Means Committee chairman Harold Knutson has declared that he does not expect a specific recommendation on the admission tax but, regardless, the advisory committee

(*Continued on page 6*)

THOMAS HALTS RED PROBE ABRUPTLY

Hearings Are Adjourned Indefinitely; No Films Cited by Committee

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—In a surprise move, chairman J. Parnell Thomas today adjourned the current investigation into alleged Communist activity in Hollywood by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Up to the adjournment, not a single motion picture had been indicted by the committee.

Thomas repeated his announcement of the second phase of the public hearings, declaring that they would be held before the full committee or a sub-committee either here or in Los Angeles. He still gave no date for

(*Continued on page 5*)

McNutt Hails End Of Hearing

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The Motion Picture Association tonight hailed the sudden ending of the Un-American Activities Committee hearings as a "complete vindication of our position."

The statement by Paul V. McNutt said that the committee knows that Communists will never succeed in putting propaganda into films, and if the committee wanted to be fair it should have said so. "Its silence must be interpreted as a sign that it deliberately wanted to create an impression based on unsubstantiated charges."

"The motion picture industry will always continue to fight to preserve

(*Continued on page 5*)

Goldwyn Berates Hollywood Probe

The House Un-American committee probe of alleged Communism in Hollywood was roundly condemned here yesterday by Samuel Goldwyn as "unfair, unjust" and an attempt "to dictate and control what goes on the screens of America."

Speaking at a press conference in his Sherry Netherland suite, he said he was "astounded and outraged at

(*Continued on page 5*)

Three More In TOA Fold

Three additional groups have formally voted affiliation with the Theatre Owners of America, including the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Tennessee, the New Mexico Theatres Association and the Albany (New York) Exchange area of the Theatre Owners of America, it was disclosed here yesterday by the TOA.

The Tennessee organization named Kermit C. Stengel, of Nashville, to

(*Continued on page 2*)

Washington Ringside

By RED KANN

J. PARNELL THOMAS, at three P.M. this afternoon and one full day ahead of his announced schedule, brought the gavel down on what he described as the first phase of the Un-American Activities Committee's investigation into subversive influences in Hollywood.

"Experts," undesignated, are working now on material promised for unfoldment in a second phase on an undesignated date in an undesignated city, which might be Washington or Los Angeles.

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The second chapter in the hippodrome of the last 11 days will be open to the public, of course, so that even now the industry would do well to bolster itself for more sensational headlines provided by witnesses no doubt to be carefully selected by the committee in furtherance of its futile purpose.

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Hollywood, which is to say the industry for this purpose, has been damaged. Its reputation has been tarnished. Stage-managing its procedure with all eyes cocked on afternoon and morning paper headlines, the committee saw to it that the highlight news around the nation became a series of sensations.

For Eric Johnston and Paul V. McNutt to maintain as vigorously as they did that the industry has been vilified by charges, which in large measure were never established, had

(*Continued on page 5*)

Ask 110 to Albany TOA Meet Monday

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 30.—Citing the "need for an organization to combat such attacks as Ascap's new rates, and advanced admission abuses," in a letter sent today to 110 exhibitors in this area, Harry Lamont, newly-elected head of the Theatre Owners of America for the Albany district, has called a meeting for Monday at the Paramount Theatre, here.

At the Monday meeting the local unit will elect a national delegate to the forthcoming TOA Chicago meeting, to be held on Nov. 7-8.

Personal Mention

LOUIS B. MAYER, M-G-M production head, and HOWARD STRICKLING, studio publicity chief, will leave here today for the Coast.

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CARL LESERMAN, executive vice-president of Benedict Bogeaus Productions, and MRS. LESERMAN, announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, BARBARA to ARTHUR KRAMER of Los Angeles.

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WILLIAM E. OSBORNE, Monogram's Far Eastern and Middle Eastern representative, has returned to New York after two years in the territory.

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C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, will return here over the weekend from Chicago and Minneapolis.

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O. C. JOHNSON, assistant chief of engineering for Westrex, has returned to New York after a tour of major Latin American cities.

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EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists' Eastern and Canadian sales manager, has returned to New York from a tour of exchanges.

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M. L. SIMONS, of M-G-M's publicity department, will attend the West Virginia TOA convention in Charleston, W. Va.

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SAM KAPLAN, operations manager for Albert Dezel Productions, is in New York from Detroit on vacation.

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LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, has returned to New York from Montreal.

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J. K. MCGUINNESS, M-G-M production executive, will leave here for the Coast by plane today.

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JOHN HAMAN, Altec Service technician, and MRS. HAMAN, announce the birth of a son.

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TIM WHELAN, director, will arrive from England today on the *S. S. Queen Elizabeth.*

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ORVILLE O. DULL, M-G-M producer, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

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CAROL BRANDT, M-G-M Eastern story editor, will sail tomorrow for London.

•

RENE CLAIR will leave here for Hollywood tomorrow.

Rathvon Back at Studio

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO Radio, returned to the studio today after a physical checkup at the Cedars of Lebanon hospital here. .

Cooper to Warner

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—Gary Cooper has been signed to a long-term contract by the Warner studio.

Harry Warner Aids Food Project

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—Addressing representatives of press, radio and civic organizations at a luncheon today, Harry M. Warner made a resounding plea for America to "speak through the hearts of men" in terms of food for free peoples abroad. To aid the "Friendship Train," which will start a transcontinental food-gathering trip Nov. 7, Warner disclosed that he has supplied the services of Warner personnel in key cities through which the train will pass.

Spontaneous response to the project has been reported from Coast cities and as far East as Wyoming, with large stocks of food guaranteed in advance, according to Dick Dickson, a committee member.

Warner admitted that he accepted responsibility for the project against doctor's orders, and said, "I would rather die doing this job, than live without it being done."

705 Theatres In Capital District

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—In its survey of the theatre situation in this area, which is the seventh in a series of 31, the Motion Picture Association reports 705 theatres with a total seating capacity of 433,478 currently operating in the capital district.

One-third of this area's theatres, some 232, are located in Baltimore, Washington, Richmond and Norfolk. These theatres account for 187,410 seats.

Seventy-one percent of the towns in this territory have a population of 2,500 and under, the directory reveals. The 251 theatres in those 216 towns have a seating capacity of 99,169.

Launch $2,000,000 Ad Budget for E-L

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle Lion director of advertising-publicity, will leave for Hollywood today for conferences with studio production head Bryan Foy and studio publicity manager Sam Israel on the first campaigns to be set in motion under the company's 1947-48 promotion budget of $2,000,000.

The company is preparing four new ones for early release, including "T-Men," "Adventures of Casanova," "Northwest Stampede" and "Prelude to Night."

WB's Callow Heads Variety in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30.—Everett C. Callow, director of advertising-publicity for Warner Brothers, here, has been installed as commander of Variety Post No. 713, American Legion.

Others installed were: Jacob Y. Brodsky, assistant contact manager of Warner Brothers, who became senior vice-commander; William Brooker, Paramount, junior vice-commander; Roy Robbins, manager of the Aldine Theatre, chaplain.

Three More in TOA

(*Continued from page 1*)

the TOA board, and at the same time elected to its presidency Walter L. Morris of Knoxville. Emil Bernstecker, also of Knoxville, was named secretary-treasurer.

Russell Hardwick will represent the New Mexico unit on the TOA board, with Marlin Butler serving as alternate. Harry Lamont is head of the Albany unit.

Meanwhile, the TOA has scheduled a meeting here today to take up problems presented by 16mm. operations and to frame recommendations for action to be taken by the TOA board. Participants in the conference will be Ted R. Gamble, TOA president; Myron Blank, vice-chairman and head of the 16mm. committee; Arthur Lockwood, regional vice-president, and Fred Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association. The last named organization is not affiliated with TOA, but works closely with it on some matters.

Legion Classifies 13 Additional Pictures

Six of 13 pictures reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been placed in Class A-I, four have been placed in Class A-II, and three in Class B.

In A-I are: "Check Your Guns," "Cheyenne Takes Over," "Fighting Vigilantes" and "Shadow Valley," all Eagle-Lion; "Driftwood," Republic, and "The Swordsman," Columbia. In A-II are: "I Love Trouble," Columbia; "Intrigue," United Artists; "Killer McCoy," M-G-M, and "Love from a Stranger," Eagle-Lion. Rated B are: "The Invisible Wall" and "Nightmare Alley," both 20th Century-Fox, and "Two Blondes and a Redhead," Columbia. RKO Radio's "The Fugitive," formerly classified as A-II, has been placed in Class A-I after re-editing.

To Use RKO Studio For Academy Short

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—RKO Radio studios will provide facilities for the production of the first short subject in the series on the film industry which is being sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Grant Leenhouts, coordinator and producer of the series, has announced.

Delay Enterprise Talks

Discussions on distribution plans and budgets for forthcoming product between Enterprise's George J. Schaefer, David Loew and Charles Einfeld, which were scheduled for this week, here, have been postponed until next week due to a delay in Einfeld's arrival from the Coast. Einfeld now is due on Monday.

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
FOREVER AMBER
20th Century-Fox
TECHNICOLOR
starring LINDA DARNELL · CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE · GEORGE SANDERS
ON STAGE!
Veloz and Yolanda
Extra Added Attraction
Sid Caesar
ROXY
7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Katharine HEPBURN • Paul HENREID • Robert WALKER
in MGM's
"SONG OF LOVE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
BARRY FITZGERALD
JOAN CAULFIELD
'WELCOME STRANGER'
IN PERSON
SLATE BROS.
Extra!
YVETTE
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JAMES STEWART • JANE WYMAN
in ROBERT RISKIN'S
"MAGIC TOWN"
A WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Production • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PARAMOUNT'S
"VARIETY GIRL"
starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Will do your heart good."—*Hale, News*
Walt Disney's NEW MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE
"Fun and Fancy Free"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46th St
Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

MY NAME IS Daisy Kenyon
"I DON'T BELONG TO ANY MAN!"
"I'M A FREE WOMAN – I DO MY OWN CHOOSING!"

These 3 Together

AND A LOVE ONLY TWO CAN SHARE!

"Daisy Kenyon"

with Ruth Warrick · Martha Stewart · Peggy Ann Garner · Connie Marshall
Nicholas Joy · Art Baker · Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER

Screen Play by David Hertz · Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

The Biggest Boxoffice Best-Sellers

are made by 20th Century-Fox

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Probe Halted

(Continued from page 1)

the second phase, but said that the committee had "two or three" other hearings, not related to the motion picture industry, which it would hold first.

The chairman's gavel sounded on the table nine days after the hearings opened, and after the committee had heard 39 witnesses, some not included on its original list of subpoenas.

Some 11 witnesses who had been subpoenaed by the committee were not called. Included among them are Samuel Goldwyn, Charles Chaplin and several of the "hostile" witnesses. Although they will still remain under subpoena, Thomas said, their appearance is "postponed indefinitely."

'Suspected' Films Unnamed

The names of "suspect" films which his investigative staff is now analyzing would not be made public now, Thomas said, nor would those of the 79 "prominent persons" for whom the committee allegedly has records proving Communist party membership or "activities." He felt, Thomas said, that "it would not be fair to release their records without putting them on the stand just as we did the others."

"The need for this inquiry has been clearly shown," the chairman said in his closing statement.

Pointing out that "10 prominent figures in Hollywood have refused to deny that they were Communists," Thomas concluded by saying, "the industry should set about immediately to clean out its house and should not wait for public opinion to do it."

When questioned about an answer to the request made by Paul V. McNutt, coordinator-counsel for the Motion Picture Association, that the committee prove Thomas' charges of pressure brought by the industry to "lay off" or postpone the hearings, Thomas answered that he had replied to McNutt "in part" in his statement made yesterday morning.

In an opening statement yesterday Thomas had repeated the charges for the second time and declared that the committee "is well aware that powerful influences have sought in every manner to divert this committee from its main course of inquiry."

Thomas to Answer McNutt

Thomas said today that he expected to complete his answer to McNutt's request in a radio broadcast, which he would give "after he took a little rest."

During the morning session today the committee recommended for contempt of Congress citations screen writers Ring Lardner, Jr., and Lester Cole. In all, the committee recommended 10 witnesses for contempt charges.

Lardner was the day's first witness. He was granted permission to read a statement, but when he did not give direct answers to the questions on his membership in the Screen Writers Guild and the Communist Party, Thomas withdrew his permission.

When he was asked what has now become known as the "$64 question" concerning his Party membership, Lardner replied: "By asking that question you are trying to discredit the Screen Writers Guild through me and the motion picture industry through the Screen Writers Guild."

Lardner, writer of "Woman of the Year" and "Cloak and Dagger," was then ordered off the stand.

Subsequently, an investigator gave information on a Communist Party card for 1944 in the name of "Ring L.," and 12 listings of Lardner's alleged Communist affiliations were read into the record.

Ordered Off Stand

Cole, credited with "The High Wall" and "Fiesta," was given less time on the stand than Lardner. He was refused permission to read a statement and when he replied that he would like to answer the two questions in his own way, he was ordered off the stand.

Again an investigator presented information about a Communist Party card in the name of "Lester Cole" and a brief committee record on Cole's alleged Communist affiliations was put into the record.

The long promised surprise witness, who was to give information on the attempts of Communist spies to gain information about the atomic bomb, turned out to be committee investigator Louis J. Russell who stated that J. Robert Oppenheimer, formerly in charge of the Los Alamas project in New Mexico, had been approached and asked to reveal secrets about the bomb which would then be transmitted to Russia. Oppenheimer replied that such an act would be treasonable, and refused to reveal anying. None of the persons mentioned in the line of approach to Oppenheimer were in the motion picture industry.

Playwright on Stand

Fourth witness on today's calendar was poet and playwright Berthold Brecht, author of the story "Hangmen Also Die." In response to questioning, Brecht, who is not an American citizen, stated that he was not and had never been a member of the Communist Party. After detailed questioning on his writing, Brecht was excused from the stand, with a commendation from the committee for his cooperation.

Lowell Mellett, under subpoena but not called to testify, in a statement to the press denied he caused Robert Taylor to appear against his will in "Song of Russia." Mellett was Hollywood chief of the Office of War Information at the time. He suggested the committee's work could be accelerated by inspecting product for subversive content, tracing the history of each such picture from stem to stern, and, thirdly, establishing who accepted final responsibility and "put the company's time, talent and money into its production."

REEVES
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'Hollywood Fights Back' Air Show on ABC Sunday

Committee for the First Amendment will take to the air with a second "Hollywood Fights Back" program on Sunday over American Broadcasting. Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall and Danny Kaye will be heard from Hollywood, and Moss Hart, George Kaufman and Leonard Bernstein will broadcast from New York. A Washington pick-up also is considered. The new group sponsored a similar program last Sunday.

Washington Ringside

(Continued from page 1)

to be reported and, so far as diligent checkup here in Washington demonstrates, was. But their protest was not of the stuff which sells newspapers. It was not exciting enough. It could not have been exciting enough. It was merely a defense.

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It was generally agreed here that the Thomas Committee functioned under accepted procedure applying to Congressional committees. Cloaked in wide powers, it was practically autonomous and many in attendance here thought, virtually dictatorial.

It had the right—and exercised it—to hear witnesses at length or to dismiss them at the discretion of the chairman.

The consequence was that a huge volume of testimony, heard from witnesses or prepared by the very diligent research staff of the committee, presented one side of the story while the other never reached the light of day.

Where the complete truth resides, therefore, remains to be seen.

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That the committee has some information, and perhaps a good deal, which cannot be successfully refuted seems reasonable. That there is much which might be projected into different perspective, if the pro and con had been told, likewise appears reasonable.

•

The Un-American Activities Committee may have conducted an investigation and not a trial. But its investigation had the impact and the effect of a trial as well as the decision of the judges.

Goldwyn Berates

(Continued from page 1)

the manner in which the committee has permitted our industry to be vilified by gossip, innuendo and hearsay."

Goldwyn, who has been under subpoena by the committee, said he called the conference because he wanted to express his views, since he had not been given a chance to testify. Declaring that he and the entire industry hates Communism and Fascism, he pointed out that "as long as America remains a free country it is the right of every free man to think and say what he chooses, so long as his acts are not outside our laws and Constitution."

He asserted that he accepted full responsibility for every word and act that have appeared in films he has produced, and defied anyone to point to a single thing in his films that could be called subversive or un-American. Defending "The Best Years of Our Lives," he said he risked millions of dollars producing it against the advice of those who believed the theme would be outdated by the time it reached the screen "because I wanted to portray American democracy at work."

Concluding, he said that American films have consistently shown the "greatness of America and the American way of life," and that they will continue to do so.

Goldwyn will sail for England shortly where he will attend the Royal Command Performance of his "The Bishop's Wife."

Australian 'Freeze' To Aid Its Industry

By FRANK O'CONNELL

SYDNEY, Oct. 25 (By Airmail).—The domestic production industry expects to benefit from the agreement reached between the Federal government and U. S. companies for the annual freezing of 30 per cent of film dollar remittances. More important from a general trade viewpoint is that exhibitors may now breathe easier, their film supply having been secured.

General talk is that much of the U. S. companies' frozen money will be invested in local production, although it is pointed out that improvement of office quarters and similar expenditures will require considerable of the money.

Said Cinesound's Ken Hall when the agreement was announced: "American capital and American initiative will provide a vital stimulant at a time when the industry here is sagging because British legislation has destroyed a valuable market."

Said Columbia's Nick Pery, who produced "Smithy": "Dollar-saving proposals will influence any Columbia plans for continuing film production in Australia. These plans were suspended because of the dollar crisis. Before we resume our preparations we will have to consider availability of studio space and equipment and England's situation under the Dalton tax."

McNutt Hails

(Continued from page 1)

American ideals. It will resist any efforts, whatever their source, to sully and degrade these ideals," McNutt said. The committee charged that films contained subversive propaganda, McNutt stated, but produced no proof whatever.

McNutt said the committee at the outset of the hearing dropped the charge that the White House exercised pressure during the war to make films containing such propaganda and refused to produce evidence of the charges that important persons tried to induce the committee to "lay off." He repeated that the industry desires to see Communists exposed—but in the traditional American manner.

Ask Stassen To Head 'Free Film' Group

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—A group of Hollywood Republicans and Democrats, without official name or spokesman, have proposed to Harold E. Stassen, now in Southern California on a speaking tour, that he head a nationwide organization in behalf of freedom for the screen. Stassen, in Long Beach today, could not be reached for comment.

Among principals in the move are: David O. Selznick, Arthur Hornblow, Lionel Barrymore and Douglas Fairbanks.

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New City Commerce Head Lauds Walsh

Shortly after Mayor O'Dwyer announced yesterday that Edward Maguire had been appointed Commissioner of Commerce for New York City, Maguire complimented Richard F. Walsh, president of IATSE, on behalf of the mayor and himself upon the "good job done and the respect gained" by the 'IA' president and delegation at the recent American Federation of Labor convention in San Francisco.

Maguire, who was instrumental in securing a five-year "peace" pact among local motion picture unions to bar jurisdictional strife, here, spoke at a testimonial luncheon for Walsh citing his accomplishments in behalf of 'IA.' Held at the St. George Hotel, Brooklyn, the luncheon was given by several hundred 'IA' members from New York State, New Jersey and New England, following Walsh's return here from the Coast. Also present was Roy M. Brewer, 'IA' international representative on the West Coast, who arrived here yesterday from Washington.

Reviewing the convention's proceedings on the studio jurisdictional dispute with the carpenters' union, Walsh cited as a tribute to the respect for "IA" in Federation circles the convention's refusal to grant demands made by William Hutcheson, president of the carpenters, that his union's jurisdictional claims be upheld and enforced. He also said that the success of the "IA" delegation in keeping the jurisdictional issue from general debate on the convention floor which, he contended, would undoubtedly have gained widespread publicity, and "dangerously" overshadowing the convention's accomplishments "for the welfare of all of labor."

It is believed that Maguire, long in the forefront of a movement to attract motion picture production to New York, will redouble his efforts in his new office.

Income Firm

(*Continued from page* 1)

business other than to say that he is not pessimistic.

Meanwhile, Paramount is progressing with its theatre audience survey to determine the most effective means of promotion, why certain segments of the public do not attend theatres at all or more often, and, as Goldenson said yesterday to cover "every facet of theatregoing."

Some results are likely to come up for discussion at the meeting of Paramount's theatre partners in Chicago at the end of next week. The session is not a specially-called one, but was set because the theatremen will be in that city then for the board meeting of the Theatre Owners of America, Goldenson said.

Advisors to Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

will make broad recommendations for general tax revision. The advisory committee is known to favor some steps toward eliminating double taxation on corporate dividends.

Universal Pictures' chairman J. Cheever Cowdin is a member of the advisory committee, which is headed by former Under-Secretary of the Treasury Roswell McGill.

Studio Carpenters

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing rights of the locals "are respected by producers."

If the machinists go along with the set designers and painters, the carpenters alone would maintain their original strike position from among all the locals which walked out of the studios more than one year ago to respect the picket lines thrown up by the carpenters. Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, an amalgamation of striking locals, has expressed himself as supporting the move to permit striking members to return because of economic need.

Screen Workmen Ask NLRB To Clear Set Jurisdiction

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—A group of 43 painters, carpenters and set decorators petitioned the National Labor Relations Board today to decide who is entitled to jurisdiction over motion picture set erection. Maurice Nicholson, NLRB director here, said he would hold a hearing, but set no date.

UK Tax Issue

(*Continued from page* 1)

trust division, John F. Sonnett, and his assistant in charge of motion pictures, Robert L. Wright, attended part of the afternoon session of the meeting, and discussed the British problem with the industry executives.

As one official present said, "We did not want to come up with a solution for our British troubles and find we just invited more trouble from the Justice Department. We want to be sure that anything we work out is legal."

Another top Government official called in to help was Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Willard L. Thorpe. British Cinematograph Exhibitor Association officials W. R. Fuller and B. T. Davis were guests during the lunch hour break.

Many different proposals were discussed, it was stated.

Most of those present left town immediately after the meeting. Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, left for Hot Springs, while Fuller and Davis will be guests of the major company presidents at a luncheon tomorrow at the Harvard Club in New York.

Participating in the conference along with the aforementioned were: James A. Mulvey, Samuel Goldwyn Productions; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Nate J. Blumberg and J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal-International; Jack Cohn and A. Schneider, Columbia; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Samuel Schneider, Warners; Ned E. Depinet and Dore Schary, RKO Radio; Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists; Joseph H. Hazen, Hal Wallis Productions; Francis Harmon, Gerald Mayer and Joyce O'Hara, the latter three of the Motion Picture Association.

Police Ban 'Amber'

ROCHESTER, Oct. 30.—Despite a police ban, "Forever Amber" continued to play at the Regent here today as the operators, Monroe Amusements, obtained a temporary injunction against the closing from Supreme Court Justice Earle S. Warner.

'46 Sets Canadian Theatre Record

TORONTO, Oct. 30.—The Canadian government reported today that motion picture theatre attendance and receipts in Canada for 1946 reached an all-time high. Paid admissions totalled 227,425,905 at 1,477 theatres whose receipts added up to $59,793,215 without taxes. These figures compare with 215,573,267 admissions and $55,430,711 net revenue in 1945.

In addition, amusement taxes collected last year amounted to $15,024,547 against $14,055,021 in the previous twelve months. Thus Canadians spent approximately $75,000,000 for film entertainment in 1946.

'Red' Affidavits Complete: CMPS

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—A Washington report that officers of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen have not filed complete non-Communist affidavits is in error, CMPS president A. M. Van Dyke and attorney David Beznor declared here today. The salesmen's organization, Beznor said, has filed "completely" all requirements in accordance with the Taft-Hartley law. "We are awaiting a notice for a formal hearing before the National Labor Relations Board," he said.

Van Dyke stated that his organization was "100 per cent American," adding that anyone within the CMPS affiliated with any Communistic group would be removed.

Columbia Group Off To San Francisco

Columbia home office executives and top sales personnel, who will conclude a four-day meeting in the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, today, will leave over the weekend for San Francisco where the third and last of the company's series of sales meetings is scheduled for the St. Francis Hotel, Nov. 4-8. As at the two previous meetings in New York and New Orleans, A. Montague, Columbia's general sales manager, will preside over the San Francisco sessions.

Among those traveling from New Orleans to San Francisco, in addition to Montague, are Rube Jackter, Maurice Grad, George Josephs, and H. C. Kaufman. They will be joined on the Coast by Louis Astor.

Goldsmith Promoted

Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity for Warner Brothers, has appointed Jack Goldsmith head of the press-book department, effective Monday. Goldsmith's promotion follows the promotion of Sid Rechetnik to trade press and exhibitor relations representative in New York. Goldsmith joined Warners in 1936, working in the home office for two years, then being assigned to the South as field representative.

Dutch Want Outlet

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The chief of the Netherlands Indies Film Distribution Service, K. H. R. Hlawatsch, is seeking a U. S. outlet for a government-sponsored newsreel, according to the U. S. Commerce Department. The reel, a weekly, featuring events in the Netherlands Indies, will be produced in an English version if an outlet is found here.

Hollywood

By W. J. McGRATH

Hollywood, Oct. 30

A PRODUCTION spurt at Enterprise Studios finds four units shooting simultaneously on that lot and six in the cutting rooms. Also, the company is currently preparing six scripts for planned production during the next nine months which together with company and out[illegible] films, should see 20 pictures produced on the lot during the coming year. . . . Winding up his editing chore on Independent Artists' "Mourning Becomes Electra", a Rosalind Russell starrer for RKO Radio release, Dudley Nichols has started on the screenplay which he will direct for IA as the second to follow the new company's "The Velvet Touch".

•

Another newly-organized independent producing company in Hollywood, headed by Jan Grippo and Hal Roach, Jr., announces that its first film effort will be "Queen of Hearts," dramatizing the career of Michael MacDougall, famed expert on crooked gambling devices. The new unit will be separate from Grippo's present Bowery Boys series for Monogram, and a major release will be sought for "Queen."

•

Under his new releasing contract with 20th Century-Fox, Sol M. Wurtzel will concentrate on comedy and straight drama for his program. First on his shooting schedule will be "Half-Past Midnight", starring Kent Taylor and Peggy Knudsen. Others in preparation are "Arthur Takes Over", a comedy; "Tucson", a Western, and "Ticket to Nowhere", a drama. . . . RKO Radio has elevated eight young players to either star or featured billing during the past year. Latest to win that rating are Gloria Grahame and Jane Greer. . . . Motion picture editors on papers in all U. S. cities in which Loew first-run houses are located, have been invited to enter a title contest for the studio's currently shooting Clark Gable-Lana Turner starrer, "Homecoming".

•

Triangle Productions, independent producing outfit headed by Charles (Buddy) Rogers and Ralph Cohn, announce "The Stardust Road" as its next film, scheduled to start shooting on Feb. 5. It will be the life story of actor-composer Hoagy Carmichael, to be released through United Artists. . . . Falcon Productions announces two more pictures to follow "The Unwritten Law", which goes before the cameras this week. . . .

•

Producer Arthur Lyons has bought screen rights to Thomas Costain's "Money Man", at a reported price of $300,000 as a Technicolor vehicle for Louis Hayward and Ida Lupino. . . . "Feudin' Gal from Georgia" and "Singapore Sal" both originals, have been purchased by Republic. . . . "Dark Valley" is a new story purchase by Monogram, with Jeffrey Bernerd to handle its production. Anthony Quinn and Katherine DeMille are being considered as co-stars for the screen version.

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VOL. 62. NO. 87 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

$300,000,000 Inventory for Seven Majors

Independents Would Add Another $50,000,000

Recent action of 20th-Fox and Paramount in arranging for bank credits of $25,000,000 each, may be followed by similar moves on the part of other film companies if product inventories continue to mount and receipts do not increase in similar proportion, it was learned from banking sources usually identified with large loans to motion picture corporations. Bank credits had previously been arranged by RKO Radio, Columbia and Universal.

Current major company inventories, including pictures

(*Continued on page* 3)

16mm. Shows 'Unfair': TOA

"Unfair competition" in the form of 16mm. film shows in department stores, bars and places of public assembly was found in the course of a survey conducted by a special committee of the Theatre Owners of America. The matter was brought to the attention of TOA leaders and others here at a meeting on Friday by Myron Blank, co-chairman of the 16mm. study group.

It was said that the findings will be presented to the TOA board meeting

(*Continued on page* 3)

27 Drive-ins Built Or Set for West

Salt Lake City, Nov. 2.—An unprecedented building boom has resulted in the opening of 15 drive-in theatres in this area.

Despite this large number, O. J. Hazen of Service Theatre Supply here, expects two more to open this year and 10 more next year.

The outdoor units, some operated by individuals who have had no previous experience in the business and some by new circuits, are located in Utah, Idaho and Montana. New organizations to operate drive-ins include one formed by Jack Moran, Montana; and Hugo Jorgenson, Idaho.

IA Working on Bid For Raises to 15,000 on Coast

Within the next 30 days the IATSE will start negotiations with Hollywood producers for cost-of-living increases of about 15 per cent for the 15,000 studio employes under its jurisdiction, Roy Brewer, 'IA' international representative on the Coast, disclosed here at the weekend on the eve of his return to Hollywood. Current wage schedules under a two-year wage reopening clause of the 'IA' five-year pact can be redrawn after next Jan. 1.

Brewer, who stopped off in New York from Washington where he ap-

(*Continued on page* 3)

200 Mark 20 Years Of Newsreel Sound

Some 200 pioneers in the field of the sound newsreel and guests met at the Monte Carlo Restaurant, **here,** Friday evening to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first newsreel with sound.

Courtland Smith, credited with engineering the first sound newsreel, was honor guest, and was presented with a memento of the anniversary. Smith reviewed for the gathering developments which led up to and followed the showing of the first sound newsreel in October, 1927, at the Roxy Theatre, here. The reel was the forerunner of the regular edition of Fox-Movietone News. Another speaker was Earl Sponable, chief sound engineer for Movietone, who is credited

(*Continued on page* 2)

20% of New Canada Houses Are Odeon's

Ottawa, Nov. 2.—Approximately 20 per cent of all recent new motion picture theatres being constructed in Canada, or in work, have been or are being undertaken by Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd.

See Mexican Curb On Outgoing Money

Mexico City, Nov. 2.—Concern is felt in American and other foreign distribution circles here over an expected curb on remittances from Mexico. The necessity of conserving money at home is becoming increasingly urgent, according to reports.

The need was first manifested last July 11, when the government banned imports of many articles, and restricted many others by raising duties to discourage buying them.

The belief of some industry men here is that the anticipated curb is not far off and that it will occur swiftly and without any warning.

Calvert Is N. Y. Sales Head of Riskin Prod.

Lowell V. Calvert has been named general sales manager and Eastern representative of Robert Riskin Prod., which releases through RKO Radio. Calvert, who entered the industry in 1907 and after a career of executive posts joined Pioneer Pictures as distribution and sales chief, was also associated with Selznick International and Frank Capra Prod.

Some Import Restrictions Foreshadowed in Canada

Ottawa, Nov. 2.—Louis St. Laurent, Dominion Secretary of State for External Affairs, forecasting "measures of regimentation and direction" to help rescue Canada from her present economic crisis, is said to have thereby set the stage for the imposition of controls on imports of so-called "non-essentials" — including possibly films—to conserve dollars.

Canada's rapidly rising adverse trade balance with the U. S. reached a total of $644,500,000 in the first eight months of 1947.

American motion pictures are said to have been regarded by Canadian authorities as necessary imports for which no real substitutes could be found. If import controls are adopted such items as paintings, foliage, perfumes, liquor, etc., would be affected at the outset, it is believed. U. S. films, it is said, might come in for only quantitative limitations because of official recognition of their value as "morale boosters." Drastic or arbitrary curbs on U. S. films such as have been effected in other countries due to dollar shortages, are not expected here.

During the war, the Canadian Government attached considerable morale value to U. S. fiilms, and the need for morale in the present economic crisis is said to be almost as important.

CEA Delegate Predicts UK Tax Solution

Fuller Terms His Visit Here a 'Complete Success'

Walter R. Fuller, secretary general of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, expressed confidence before leaving here for London at the weekend that the British film tax impasse would be resolved. Although describing his one-week visit here as a "completely successful fact-finding mission," Fuller declined to divulge any specific accomplishments.

Fuller and his associate on the mission, B. T. Davis, president of the CEA, were guests of the international division of the Motion Picture Association at a luncheon here on Friday.

(*Continued on page* 3)

Sue to Kill State Tax

Memphis, Nov. 2.—Four Tennessee theatre companies, including M. A. Lightman's Malco Circuit of Memphis, have filed suit in Chancery Court at Nashville seeking to remove the state sales tax from rental fees paid by theatres to distribution companies.

The suit, seeking a declaratory judgment against Sam K. Carson, state commissioner of finance and taxation, was brought by Malco, Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville, and the Grand Amusement Co., and Indepen-

(*Continucd on page* 3)

Spread of N.Y. State Local Tax is Seen

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 2.—The Dewey administration is in favor of extending to smaller cities the permissive local taxing powers—including the privilege of levying five per cent admission taxes—which the 1947 state legislature gave to cities of over

(*Continued on page* 3)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Election Day, a legal holiday.**

Personal Mention

G. S. EYSSELL, president of Radio City Music Hall, was in Washington for the weekend.

•

David Weinstock, president of Raybond Theatres and Mrs. Weinstock, formerly a Fox booker, will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on Nov. 11.

•

Samuel Goldwyn, producer, will act as chairman of the motion picture division of the Urban League Service Fund, according to Henry R. Luce, director of the campaign.

•

Curtis Mitchell, advertising-publicity director for Paramount, lectured on the industry and its relation to Army public information at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., last week.

•

Dore Schary, executive in charge of RKO Radio production, will leave New York for Hollywood today.

•

Roy Haines, Western division sales manager for Warner, is due in New York tomorrow after a Western tour.

•

Leonard Goldman, promotion director for Century circuit, has announced his engagement to Miss Phyllis Stepner.

•

Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

Arthur Block, associate editor of *Progress*, a Universal-International publication, has resigned.

•

Norman McLeod will arrive here from the Coast today.

MPS Elects Research Council Officers

Hollywood, Nov. 2.—The Motion Picture Society has completed organization of the Motion Picture Research Council, recently taken over from the Academy of Motion Picture Art and Science. Y. Frank Freeman has been elected chairman of the board, with Thomas D. Moulton serving as vice-chairman. Wallace Wolfe is president, and William F. Kelley is secretary-treasurer.

Kraus with Radiant

Chicago, Nov. 2.—Bert Kraus has been named Eastern district sales manager of Radiant Screen. He formerly was with the New York office of Bell and Howell as assistant to the vice-president, and following Army service as a captain, was with the American Bolex Co.

Donohue to Marathon

Hollywood, Nov. 2.—Jack Donohue, former M-G-M director, has been signed to direct Marathon Pictures' forthcoming "Close-Up," which will be released by Eagle Lion.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN, in an interview in New York last week, expressed the belief that the industry is facing "the third great crisis in its history" because of the loss of foreign markets, diminishing domestic grosses and mounting production costs.

The first great industry crisis, Goldwyn said, occurred in the 1920's when "pictures became so bad that people preferred to sleep at home instead of in theatres."

Then, along came sound and dispelled that crisis.

The next one was in the 1930's and was due to the "complete emptiness of films," Goldwyn said. Symptoms of that crisis were triple features, giveaways and, despite them, near-empty theatres, said he.

Then, along came a world war and saved "a lot of companies from bankruptcy," despite poor quality pictures, Goldwyn contended.

That brings us up to the third "crisis," occurring at a time when the industry is confronted with greater competition for the public's amusement dollar than ever before, Goldwyn believes.

•

"We were saved twice before," Goldwyn cautions, "by circumstances outside of ourselves. We cannot count on that again. This time, it is up to us alone, producers and exhibitors alike, to meet the situation squarely by working together to give the public more than ever before in quality. Only in this way can we expect the public to respond with the grosses we all need to keep the industry healthy."

Goldwyn is a sincere believer in pictures of quality. His record shows that he has been more successful than many in delivering them. It is natural that he should think that quality product is deserving of premium playing terms, i. e., advanced admission prices.

He was asked whether he believed that high cost pictures automatically deserved advanced admission prices, regardless of the quality of such pictures and, in effect, for the primary purpose of getting the producer out of hock.

Goldwyn replied emphatically that he did not; that the cost of the picture was immaterial; that quality was everything because, it is his contention, the public is not interested in production cost but in quality.

If the quality is there, the public will pay for it, Goldwyn believes.

•

Certainly, there is much in favor of Goldwyn's arguments, just as there is much to be said for exhibitors who oppose advanced admissions because their experience with them has shown that business at their theatres drops off a week in advance of the advent of the policy and remains off several weeks after prices have reverted to normal.

The exhibitor may have made extra money while playing the Goldwyn or other picture at advanced admissions. He may lose that extra in the drop-off in business during the periods immediately following such engagements.

The exhibitor must of necessity look at several bookings, whereas Goldwyn need look only at the one for his own picture. That is not Goldwyn's fault, nor can the exhibitor ignore it.

A few months from now the U. S. Supreme Court may be expected to rule on the legality of price-fixing. The ruling may make the entire argument over advanced admissions an academic one.

• •

After two weeks of hearings on communism in Hollywood without a single picture being cited for alleged Red propaganda content, the Thomas committee dropped the curtain with a story about atom bomb espionage which involved not the film industry but the oil industry. The alleged offender was an employe of Shell Refining. His principal connection with Hollywood was that, like J. Parnell Thomas, he had been there a couple of times. The committee's closing act, like so much else it concerned itself with during the two weeks of hearings, had about as much to do with communism in New Jersey as in Hollywood. One of the innocent principals in l'affaire atom bomb is now at Princeton. But if he were in Hollywood instead, it would have provided the committee with another newspaper sensation regardless of the principal's innocence.

Newsreel Parade

THE adjourning of the Hollywood probe is a highlight of current newsreels. The tragic migrations in India; Brazil severing relations with Russia, and varied sports and human interest subjects round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 19—House adjourns film inquiry. Sen. McGrath [illegible] new Democratic chairman. Rubber [illegible] in London. Sweepstake winner.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 217—Grim tragedy stalks India. Some 10,000,000 refugees on the move. Red issue creates furor at House inquiry. Brazil breaks Soviet ties. Airborne maneuvers. Dock fire in London. Sweepstake winner. Fashions.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 20 — Rio crowds approve break with Soviet. Roller derby through Chicago. Hearings on Hollywood adjourn.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 87—U. S. aid reaches Greece. Tragic scenes of migration in India. Brazil severs relations with Russia. Tule Lake: duck-hunting paradise. Comic soccer. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 22— Statue of George V unveiled in London. Hollywood probe ends. Millions on move in India. Roses still bloom on London shrine. Army flies families to "G.I.'s". Soccer: Russia vs. Sweden.

Sound Newsreels

(*Continued from page* 1)

with developing the first portable sound system.

Charles Peden, News of the Day sound engineer, was in charge of arrangements for the affair, assisted by William Githens, head of the Embassy Newsreel Theatres, and Dan Doherty, Movietone News editor, who handled press relations.

New Canadian Newsreel

Ottawa, Nov. 2.—A monthly newsreel of Canadian news events will be issued by the National Film Board of Canada beginning in January, Len Chatwin of the NFB discloses. The film will be called "Eyewitness."

New Warner Building

Omaha, Nov. 2. — Construction of a new exchange building for Warner Brothers' local office has started and the building is expected to be ready for occupancy around Jan. 1. Meanwhile, in Minneapolis, the Warner office will move into new quarters within two weeks.

Archbishop Cantwell, 72

Los Angeles, Nov. 2.—The Most Reverend John J. Cantwell, Archbishop of Los Angeles, 72, a leader in the founding of the National Legion of Decency by Catholic Bishops of the U. S., died here on Thursday.

A Pontifical Mass of Requiem will be held here Wednesday in St. Vibiana's Cathedral. Francis Cardinal Spellman is expected from New York by plane to preside.

Broidy to New York

Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, is due here for conferences with company officials. Broidy met with Eric Johnston in Washington last week.

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UK Tax Solution

(Continued from page 1)

According to an MPA announcement, he told the 28 company presidents and foreign department executives who were present that the information he and Davis had obtained during the visit here "should be of value in the solution of our mutual problems."

The CEA leaders presumably will report and make proposals to the or[illegible]ation in London this week and t[illegible]itish government officials thereafter. Fuller emphasized after Friday's luncheon that his and Davis's visit was an unofficial one.

Fuller and Davis also met with Eric A. Johnston, MPA president; Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and company presidents and foreign department executives in Washington last week.

Pioneer Applicants Must File by Nov. 17

November 17 has been set as the deadline for new applications for membership in the Picture Pioneers for induction at the organization's eighth annual dinner to be held on Nov. 19, at the Plaza here.

New Theatres for Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 2.—Prefabricated theatres are to be introduced in Mexico early in 1948, according to Emilio Azcarraga, local exhibitor who will open two here as an experiment.

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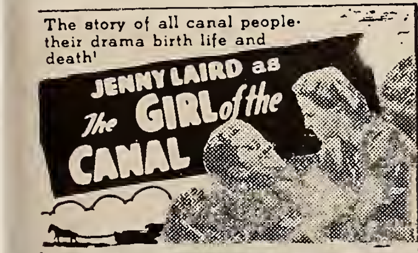
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March 31 Deadline For Academy Award

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 2.—Discarding the calendar year as the period for which pictures will be considered for the annual awards, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has altered its annual award setup by making all films publicly exhibited in Los Angeles up to March 31 eligible. In addition, the annual ceremony, heretofore a midwinter event, will be held next June 20 with the Hollywood Bowl as the site for the first time in order to accommodate more persons of the film industry, the press and public.

Industry FJP Aides To Be Named Wed.

Membership of nine committees to promote the 1947 fund-raising drive of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, here, in the motion picture and allied industries will be disclosed Wednesday at a luncheon-meeting of the amusement division at the Hotel Astor, Si Fabian, division chairman, announced at the weekend. Among those who will address the luncheon are: Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation; Edward Schreiber, publicity chairman for the entertainment industry campaign, and Fabian.

N. Y. State Tax

(Continued from page 1)

100,000 population, Charles E. Breitel, counsel to Gov. Dewey, has announced.

Benjamin Feinberg, Senate majority leader, last week defended the principle of levying taxes "near the source" where communities know their own needs and will exercise care in spending revenue. Breitel's announcement was in deference to a request by the Mayors' Conference.

Record Inventories

(Continued from page 3)

completed but not released, productions before cameras, stories in work and properties acquired for filming, aggregate more than $300,000,000 for seven top companies — Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, Warner Brothers and Columbia. United Artists producers also have large sums invested. The inventories of UA and other independent producers would raise the total to at least $350,000,000. UA disclosed a product inventory of $32,000,000.

Compared with this all-time high figure tied up in film properties and materials, the same companies have total cash assets and Government securities amounting to about $175,000,000. This means that if foreign restrictions and lower domestic grosses take a further unfavorable turn from this point, a number of companies could soon run out of immediate working funds and would have to seek loans for current operations.

Another idea of the enormous increase in inventories may be gained from a comparison of the $300,000,000 at present with the total of less than $120,000,000 for the same companies in 1941, when almost twice as many pictures were being made.

A favorable aspect of the situation is the willingness of bankers to let most film companies borrow money at unusually low rates of interest—as little as one and one-half per cent annually for short-terms loans and two per cent for longer terms.

The approximate present inventory and cash position of the seven top companies mentioned follows:

	Inventories	*Cash & Govt. Securities*
Columbia	**$20,000,000**	**$10,000,000**
Loew's	**83,000,000**	**38,000,000**
Paramount ..	**47,000,000**	**33,000,000**
RKO Radio ..	**35,000,000**	**20,000,000**
20th-Fox	**52,000,000**	**44,000,000**
Universal	**21,000,000**	**9,000,000**
Warners	**48,000,000**	**22,000,000**

Practically all companies have comfortable surpluses on their consolidated balance sheets, but the amount of money tied up in inventories has increased much faster than cash position since the start of wartime inflation. An outstanding instance is Loew's, which on Aug. 31, 1941, had cash and Government securities amounting to $39,000,000, while inventories totalled only $33,000,000. Loew's inventory total now has considerably more than doubled, while the cash and Government security figure is approximately the same.

'IA' Raise Bid

(Continued from page 1)

peared at the House Un-American Activities subcommittee hearings, while expressing criticism of some of the tactics employed by the Thomas group in its investigation, said that if the hearings served any purpose it was putting the spotlight on the Screen Writers Guild.

While not committing himself specifically on the question of whether proven Communists should be kept out of studio jobs, the 'IA' officer emphasized that "if there's one job where Communists should not be working, it's writing scripts." He called for "clarification" by Congress of the status of the Communist Party in America, adding that thereafter "our union's fight against Communists would be made less difficult."

Of the effect of the British *ad valorem* tax on film labor, Brewer said that "some reduced employment" had resulted because of shooting schedules which have been cut down 10 to 15 per cent. However, he added, the quality of pictures will be affected chiefly by the UK tax. In the long run, he continued, he does not expect fewer pictures, but rather pictures with fewer "frills" in them, thereby effecting economies necessitated by the loss of foreign markets.

Brewer, in commenting on a statement by Congressman Carroll D. Kearns that he would seek further meetings with film producers in New York as well as with leaders of unions in a continued effort to settle the year-long studio jurisdictional dispute between the carpenters' union and 'IA,' asserted that he does not expect to meet again with the congressman. "I feel that the situation has been thoroughly explored," he declared. "and I can't figure out what Kearns expects to achieve by further meetings."

Some Offices Will Close Election Day

Three of the home offices will be closed tomorrow, Election Day, and four others will remain open until one P. M.; two others were undecided at the weekend.

Closed all day will be M-G-M, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox. Scheduled for half a day are Columbia, RKO Radio, Universal-International and Warner Brothers. Also open to one P. M. will be the Motion Picture Association. Republic has arranged for two hours off for employes, while Monogram and United Artists were undecided over holiday arrangements.

Trust Suit Started Against Networks

A $12,915,000 triple-damage anti-trust suit was filed in Federal Court here at the weekend against four major networks. Plaintiffs are Federal Broadcasting, operator of Station WSAY, Rochester, and Gordon F. Brown, who charge a conspiracy to monopolize broadcasting. In addition to NBC, CBS, ABC and Mutual, defendants include John H. Norton, Jr., ABC, and Robert H. Schmid, Mutual vice-presidents.

Plaintiffs have asked for an injunction against an alleged program boycott against WSAY by the networks, and on Friday Federal Judge Edward A. Conger issued a temporary restrainer, to be effective until Wednesday which has been set as the date for hearing on the plaintiffs' motion.

Writers, Networks Sign

The four national radio networks and the Radio Writers Guild at the weekend signed a six-and-one-half-year contract covering free-lance writers, allowing the latter to sell their material on a non-exclusive basis, according to Sam Moore, president of the union.

Radio Week Starts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, addressed a luncheon here on Saturday, featuring the celebration of "National Radio Week."

TOA on 16mm Shows

(Continued from page 1)

in Chicago at the end of this week with board authorization to take action expected. The Blank survey, it was reported, showed that 16mm. films are being shown by churches and schools, in addition to department stores and bars.

Ted R. Gamble, TOA president; Robert W. Coyne, executive director; Henry Ferber, comptroller; Fred Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association, and Manny Frisch of the Randforce Circuit, discussed the problem with Blank.

Circuits Sue

(Continued from page 1)

dent Theatres, Inc., both of Chattanooga.

Motion picture admissions are subject to a 20 per cent Federal tax and a three per cent state tax, both of which are passed along to theatre patrons in the form of an increase in the price of tickets. The state sales tax, however, is not applied by law to admission tickets, but is levied against film rentals.

The suit complains that rental charges based on "artistry" delineated on the screen are of such an intangible nature that they cannot properly be taxed.

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VOL. 62. NO. 88 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1947 TEN CENTS

Decree Talks In N. Y. Case Unsuccessful

Supreme Court To Hear Appeals Week of Jan. 12

Exploratory discussions concerning possibilities of a consent decree in the Government's New York anti-trust suit which were held recently by defense attorneys with the Department of Justice have been terminated with no apparent prospect of their being renewed, industry legal sources indicated yesterday.

Indications are that the discussions failed to make progress and were

(*Continued on page 2*)

UA Purchase of RKO Features Is Delayed

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 4.—Final action on the purchase of four features from RKO Radio by United Artists may be delayed for some time because of the incompleted status of two of the films. While UA had announced board approval of the deal several weeks ago, the RKO board has yet to meet on the matter.

Meanwhile, UA co-owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin are to resume private conferences this week, presumably concerning the transaction, with Gradwell L. Sears, UA president; Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president; and George Bagnall, production head. The meetings began at the weekend and are to be continued following Sears' return from Palm Springs where he served as best man at Carl Leserman's wedding. The latter is sales manager for Benedict Bogeaus Productions.

PCA Previewing Fees Are Raised

Hollywood, Nov. 4.—Fees for Production Code Administration preview consideration have been raised, with increased operating costs named as the reason by PCA administrator Joseph I. Breen in a letter to all producers. Charge for top pictures (costing $500,000 or more) rose from $825 to $1150; proportionate increases apply to lower-budget films.

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Good

While business at many New York first-runs slackened somewhat over the weekend the holiday income yesterday proved a compensating factor, raising totals for the week to a good level. "The Gangster" roared into town, making a smash debut at the Victoria with an estimated $35,000 for the first week. "The Unfinished Dance" with Shep Fields' orchestra had a good opening at the Capitol, with $58,000 indicated for its first week. Other estimated returns follow:

"Forever Amber" with a stage show, at the Roxy, second week, $150,000; "Variety Girl," Charlie Spivak and Mel Torme on stage, Capitol, $60,000; "Song of Love," stage show, Music Hall, fourth week, $118,000; "Fun and Fancy Free," Globe, sixth week, $15,000; "Magic Town," Palace, fourth week, $14,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, fourth week, $43,000.

Also, "That Hagen Girl," Ted Weems on stage, at the Strand, sec-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Morris Named Head Of New Tenn. Unit

KNOXVILLE, Nov. 4.—Walter L. Morris has been named president of the new Tennessee Theatre Owners Association, which represents over 100 Tennessee theatres. The new organization will become a part of the national organization of Theatre Owners of America, as previously announced.

Other officers elected are L. J. Pepper, first vice-president; L. P. Brichetto, second vice-president; Emil Bernstecker, secretary-treasurer. K. C. Stengel was recently named to the national TOA as a director. Besides the officers, the Tenessee board includes R. B. Wilby, Charles Colville, G. B. Odlum and James Harbison. Ben Kohler, Jr., was appointed counsel.

Kusell Appoints SRO Representatives

Larri Druxerman, formerly with Empire-Universal, has been named sales representative of Selznick Releasing Organization for Eastern Canada territory, including Montreal, by Milton S. Kusell, distribution vice-president, and Joseph Plottel has been appointed Western Canadian representative.

Douglas McLeod replaces Frank Lydon as representative in the Boston branch, while Harry Dressler was appointed booker-salesman for Philadelphia.

50-50 U. K. CASH, INVESTMENT ASKED

Johnston-Fuller Plan For British Tax Peace Is Given to Treasury

LONDON, Nov. 4.—A proposal that the British government abandon its present 75 per cent duty on imported films and in lieu thereof permit the remittance of 50 per cent of their earnings here with the remaining 50 per cent to be placed in government approved investments here was officially placed before the British Treasury today by F. W. Allport, European manager of the American Motion Picture Export Association.

The proposal, which was developed by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association and MPEA, and W. R. Fuller, secretary general of the British Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, in Washington last week, met with a governmental reception which was privately described as "by no means favorable."

Several normally well informed sources declare that Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton possibly may mention the proposal in his speech to Commons on the budget next Wednesday.

It is felt certain that a final settle-

(*Continued on page 2*)

No Ticket Tax Cut Asked by Committee

Washington, Nov. 4.—Nine members of a 10-man advisory committee to the House Ways and Means committee today recommended the elimination of "inequities in particular excise taxes pointed out" in the recent hearings, but did not say whether or not this should include Federal admission tax.

Roswell Magill, head of the advisory group, said that specific excises had not been considered by the committee, since "the Ways and Means committee staff has that work well in hand."

On the whole, the committee found, however, "excise taxes should continue to form an important part of the Federal revenue system."

J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman, is a member of the committee.

See Phila. Boycotts of 'Amber,' 'Outlaw'

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4.—Up to tonight Dennis Cardinal Dougherty had not received replies from either 20th Century-Fox, exhibiting "Forever Amber" at its Fox Theatre here, or William Goldman, operator of the Erlanger, showing "The Outlaw," regarding the Philadelphia prelate's threatened one year's boycott of both houses by Roman Catholics in the archdiocese unless the films are withdrawn by noon tomorrow.

Additionally, Cardinal Dougherty said he intends to extend the boycott, also for one year, to every theatre in the city showing any other 20th-Fox film and to all local theatres showing the two films in question, unless his warning is heeded.

The Cardinal threatened the punitive action in letters to Howard Minsky, 20th-Fox branch manager here, and to Goldman, who now is in California. Goldman's associates here gave no positive indication that "The Outlaw" would be discontinued.

Cardinal Dougherty offered no personal appraisal of the two pictures in his communications, but referred to the Legion of Decency's condemnation of them. He said he hoped he would be spared the "unpleasant duty" of taking the action that lies within his province and added he speaks for 1,000,000 Roman Catholics in the 10 counties comprising the archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Meanwhile, the Catholic War Veterans has passed a resolution condemning "Amber" and "The Outlaw."

TOA Group to Meet On Board Agenda

All seven members of the management committee of the Theatre Owners of America will convene at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, tomorrow, to set the agenda for the organization's first board meeting to begin at that hotel on Friday. The committee will consist of S. H. Fabian, Lewen Pizor, E. V. Richards, Fred Wehrenberg, Robert W. Coyne, Ted R. Gamble, Herman M. Levy and Harry Lowenstein.

TOA has slated for immediate action the increased music taxes, Federal admission tax, advanced admission prices and 16 mm. competition, among other subjects.

Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, vice-president of Paramount, will arrive here today from the Coast.

•

Charles Einfeld, president of Enterprise, will arrive here today from the Coast for conferences with **George Schaefer**, Enterprise vice-president in charge of distribution, and **David L. Loew**, chairman of the board.

•

Zoltan Korda, who is due here tomorrow from the Coast, and **Morris Helprin**, U. S. representative for **Sir Alexander Korda**, will fly to London on Sunday from New York.

•

Tony Beacon, production manager for Eagle Lion in Canada, has resigned and will be succeeded by **Paul Douglas**, Warner Canadian publicity director.

•

Phil Williams, vice-president of Associated Motion Picture Advertisers and with *Fortune* magazine, left here yesterday for Charlotte.

•

Ed Hinchy of the Warner play-date department left here yesterday for Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

Harry Brand, 20th Century-Fox studio publicity director, is here from the Coast.

•

Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern exchanges, will leave Atlanta Nov. 10 for the Coast.

•

Alfred Crown, foreign sales manager for Goldwyn Productions, is en route to London from New York.

New York Grosses

(Continued from poge 1)

ond week, $43,000; "Life With Father," Warner, 12th week, $21,000; "Nightmare Alley," Mayfair, fourth week, $16,000; "The Outlaw," Broadway, eighth week, $15,000; "Ride the Pink Horse," Winter Garden, fourth week (six days), $14,000; "Beware of Pity," Park, first week, $7,000; "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 12th week, $28,000; "Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, third week, $45,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 11th week, $9,000.

Also "Tawny Pipit," Little Carnegie, ninth week, $5,000; "Gentleman After Dark" and "Man in the Iron Mask," Gotham, second week, $7,700.

Chicago Tax Action Is Postponed

Chicago, Nov. 4.—On election eve, the Chicago city council recessed until tomorrow without acting on a proposed three per cent amusement tax. The postponement, it was reported, was to give opponents of the tax an oportunity to study the city budget before voting on the tax proposal.

Canada Session Set for Dec. 5

Toronto, Nov. 4.—A session of the Canadian Parliament has been called for Dec. 5, two months ahead of the customary time, when it is expected that measures dealing with the dollar crisis will be considered.

Limitations on imports and new restrictive excise taxes probably will be proposed.

Canadian Catholics Assail Films

Toronto, Nov. 4.—Calling three films "immoral," "indecent" and "unworthy of acceptance by Christians," Roman Catholic clergymen in Canada denounced "Forever Amber," "Gone With the Wind" and "Black Narcissus." Most outspoken was Canon George O'Toole who, in an address to the Holy Name Society in Ottawa last Sunday, said, "It is time we showed these people that moral principles still prevail and that people will not pay money for filth." Other priests who condemned the films included Rev. T. J. Cawley and Rev. P. Mulaney.

20th May Share in Archers' Venture

Emeric Pressburger of Archers Films, in town from England before heading for the Coast Sunday, described his trip as "exploratory" in connection with the new Archers film, "Promotion of the Admiral," which will require location-shooting in San Francisco.

Since about 15 per cent of the film, budgeted at about $1,500,000, for release by Sir Alexander Korda, is designed for shooting in this country, Pressburger said he will discuss the possibilities of an "arrangement—financial or otherwise," to get the sequences done. He mentioned 20th Century-Fox as a possibility.

Decree Talks

(Continued from poge 1)

abandoned as soon as it became apparent that both sides were irreconcilably apart in their views concerning an acceptable decree.

Although it is possible that further discussions might be held, none are scheduled for the immediate future and all indications are that the U. S. Supreme Court will hear the pending appeals in the case during the week of Jan. 12, as scheduled.

The consent decree discussions had nothing to do with the recent one month's postponement of the high court appeals, it was emphasized. Attorneys said the delay was requested by the Justice Department because of the crowded condition of the calendar of the Solicitor Generals' department.

Walker Heads FCC

Washington, Nov. 4.—President Truman has designated Paul A Walker as acting FCC chairman.

Rank Will Spend 40 Millions in 1948

London, Nov. 4.—Countering trade union-inspired rumors that he contemplated quitting production activities, and labor demands that the government take over film studios "inefficiently operated or left idle," J. Arthur Rank has announced the biggest production program in British film history, calling for expenditure of 10,000,000 pounds ($40,000,000) within the next year, on 43 features and about 80 short subjects. The Rank organization announced additionally that it now has 13 features in production.

U.K. Tax Plan

(Continued from poge 1)

ment of the film tax impasse by Christmas is to be anticipated.

Based on last year's $68,000,000 remittances of American film revenue here, the Johnston-Fuller proposal theoretically would permit $34,000,000 to be remitted to America and another $34,000,000 to be permanently placed in government approved investments here by the American distributors.

This contrasts with the *ad valorem* film duty which would permit the American companies to remit a maximum of $16,000,000 with the remaining $52,000,000 to be collected by the British Treasury in the form of a 75 per cent import tax.

However, due to declining grosses here during the past several months, American film earnings in Britain are estimated now to be running at the rate of about 30 per cent below a year ago. On this basis, the American companies would have about $24,000,000 annually to be remitted and another $24,000,000 for permanent investment here.

The proposed alternative to the tax was made to the Treasury today in the wake of a three-hour debate in Commons last night on the film tax situation during which W. Glenvil Hall, financial secretary to the Treasury, insisted that any compromise to be accepted must effect the same saving in dollars, some $52,000,000, as the government's tax now contemplates.

Following the debate, Commons approved the Treasury order of last Aug. 6, making the 75 per cent film tax a law. It will now require an act of Parliament to rescind the law.

In the course of the debate, however, Hall emphasized the government's willingness to discuss any reasonable alternative to the film tax. He contended that "up to now, proper showing of British films in America has been denied, but we haven't squealed."

See No Action on Contempt Appeals

Washington, Nov. 4.—It is not expected here that House Speaker Martin will heed the appeals of the 10 Hollywood figures that he refuse to certify them for contempt charges rising out of their refusal to answer whether they were Communists at the recent House probe.

Canadian Spending Reaches New High

Ottawa, Nov. 4.—Canadian spending for recreation, including all taxed amusements, headed by films, reached $148,000,000 in 1946, against $135,000,000 in the previous year, it was announced by the national income unit of the Bureau of Statistics. The report shows that each year since 1938 Canadians have been spending more for recreation.

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in RENÉ CLAIR'S
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"Great entertainment . . . the kind of picture our industry needs . . . 'Killer McCoy' will have the boxoffice gals gasping for breath from the arduous ticket-punching . . . Mickey Rooney's best performance!" —FILM BULLETIN

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"Fast action melodrama to introduce Mickey Rooney to adult roles . . . should give a good account of itself at the boxoffice." —VARIETY

NEW FANS!

"Rooney will garner new fans . . . should prove a strong dramatic draw . . . a well chosen dramatic vehicle . . . a striking departure for Rooney . . ." —FILM DAILY

POWERHOUSE!

"Solid, for the better money . . . definitely a surprise entry . . . one powerhouse of entertainment . . . Rooney turns in a sock performance . . . should keep the box-offices plenty busy . . ." —THE EXHIBITOR

SLEEPER!

"The vast majority of moviegoers will have an enthusiastic time rooting for Mickey Rooney . . . could be a sleeper." —SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

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JAMES DUNN
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Directed by ROY ROWLAND
Produced by SAM ZIMBALIST

Orders Ban Rescinded

RICHMOND, Nov. 4.—The Virginia Circuit Court has ruled that the state censors' ban of "Burning Cross" was discriminatory and unconstitutional, and has ordered a license issued. It also directed the board, and Screen Guild, the distributor, to meet with the court to agree on some minor deletions.

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Jenny Laird as
The Girl of the Canal

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Lamont, Rosenthal to Attend TOA Meet

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 4.—Harry Lamont, president of Lamont Theatres, was elected delegate to the Theatre Owners Association convention to be held in Chicago, Nov. 7, at a meeting of a proposed TOA local unit held yesterday.

Leonard Rosenthal, co-counsel and adviser on buying for Upstate Theatres, will also attend as an observer. Further steps in organizing a local TOA unit will be held in abeyance until Lamont and Rosenthal report on the conclave.

Calumet Sues Major Distributors

HAMMOND, Ind., Nov. 4.—Seeking an end to clearance intervals and asking for competitive bidding on all films for first and second runs, Calumet Amusement Corp., operators of Calumet Theatre here, have filed anti-trust proceedings against all major distributors, except Loew's.

No monetary damages are being asked, according to Seymour Simon, attorney for Calumet Amusement. Loew's was excluded from the suit because Calumet is not using its product.

Stoltz Quits AA to Produce on His Own

Arnold Stolz, president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, has resigned as assistant to Harold Mirisch, Allied Artists vice-president in charge of production, to enter production on his own.

Pecora to Pioneers

Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora will officiate at the induction of new members in the Picture Pioneers at the organization's eighth annual dinner at the Hotel Plaza on Nov. 19.

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Review

"Cass Timberlane"

(M-G-M)

SUBSTANTIAL box-office merchandise has been made of the popular Sinclair Lewis novel, "Cass Timberlane." Fine performances by Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Zachary Scott and an able supporting cast, under the direction of George Sidney, give dramatic force and wide audience appeal to this story of a marriage, its near wrecking and its rescue.

Handsomely produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr., it has all the characteristics of a high pressure salesman for theatres big and little.

Tracy, in the role of Cass Timberlane, a judge in a small Minnesota city, and Miss Turner, as the girl from the wrong side of the tracks whom [illegible] marries, win their audiences early in the picture and hold them. After [illegible] loss of their child at birth, the life of the small city and the shallowness of the judge's friends begin to pall upon Miss Turner. She turns to Scott for amusement and the relationship becomes romantic when she induces Tracy to give up the Minnesota bench to practice law in New York, where Scott has become established earlier.

In New York, Tracy's perspective undergoes a change. He realizes he was running away from Minnesota to avoid presiding in a case in which friends of his are involved, and determines to return and see it through. Miss Turner refuses to return with him. Remaining in New York, she is quickly disillusioned by Scott. An injury in an automobile accident reawakens her to her love for Tracy and leads to their reconciliation in Minnesota.

The screen play by Donald Ogden Stewart, from an adaptation by Stewart and Sonya Levien, departs from the Lewis novel in a number of respects but brings into focus the romance, marriage and trials of a very human and very likeable couple who will please your patrons and who will be talked about by them.

Among those in the supporting cast are Tom Drake, Mary Astor, Albert Dekker, Margaret Lindsay, Rose Hobart, John Litel, Mona Barrie, Josephine Hutchinson, Selena Royle and John Alexander.

Running time, 117 minutes. General audience classification. Release, in January.

SHERWIN KANE

Film Stockholders List Transactions

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4.—Very few large transactions in film company stocks were revealed in the current Securities and Exchange Commission's report covering the period from Sept. 7 to Oct. 10.

At Columbia, Jack Cohn disposed of 1,000 common shares to Artists Foundation, leaving his holdings at 48,969. Jack Cohn Trusts disposed of 200 common, leaving holdings at 26,419.

At Radio-Keith Orpheum, Ned E. Depinet disposed of 1,000 $1 par common, leaving his holdings at 21,000. J. Miller Walker disposed of 400 $1 par RKO common, leaving him 100 shares. Walker reported holding 1,000 warrants for common.

At Trans-Lux Corp., Harry Brandt in a report on August acquired 100 $1 par common, bringing his holdings to 80,615. Also listed under his name were his wife's holdings of 14,700 Broadyork, Inc., and holdings of 1,000 of Harday Operating Co. shares.

At 20th Century-Fox, Thomas J. Connors in a June report listed holding 100 common while members of his family disposed of 1,500, leaving their holdings at 4,500.

At Universal Pictures Daniel M. Sheaffer, in a report for August disposed of 900 common, leaving his holdings at 16,507. Later Sheaffer disposed of 100 common, bringing his current holdings to 16,407. In an August report N. J. Blumberg disposed of 200 warrants for common leaving holdings at 28,500.

Midwest Showmen To Meet Dec. 16-17

Wichita, Kan., Nov. 4.—A convention will be called in Kansas City on Dec. 16-17 for the purpose of forming an exclusively independent exhibitor organization in the Kansas and Missouri territory. Organizational bulletins are being sent out by a committee of about 20 independents, organized at the recent Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association convention.

Usher Leaves Paramount

CHICAGO, Nov. 4.—Allan Usher, Paramount district manager, has left the company after 24 years to go into temporary retirement.

Another Devonshire Smash
Annabella—Raymond Massey
"Under the Red Robe"
Adventure—Action—Thrills
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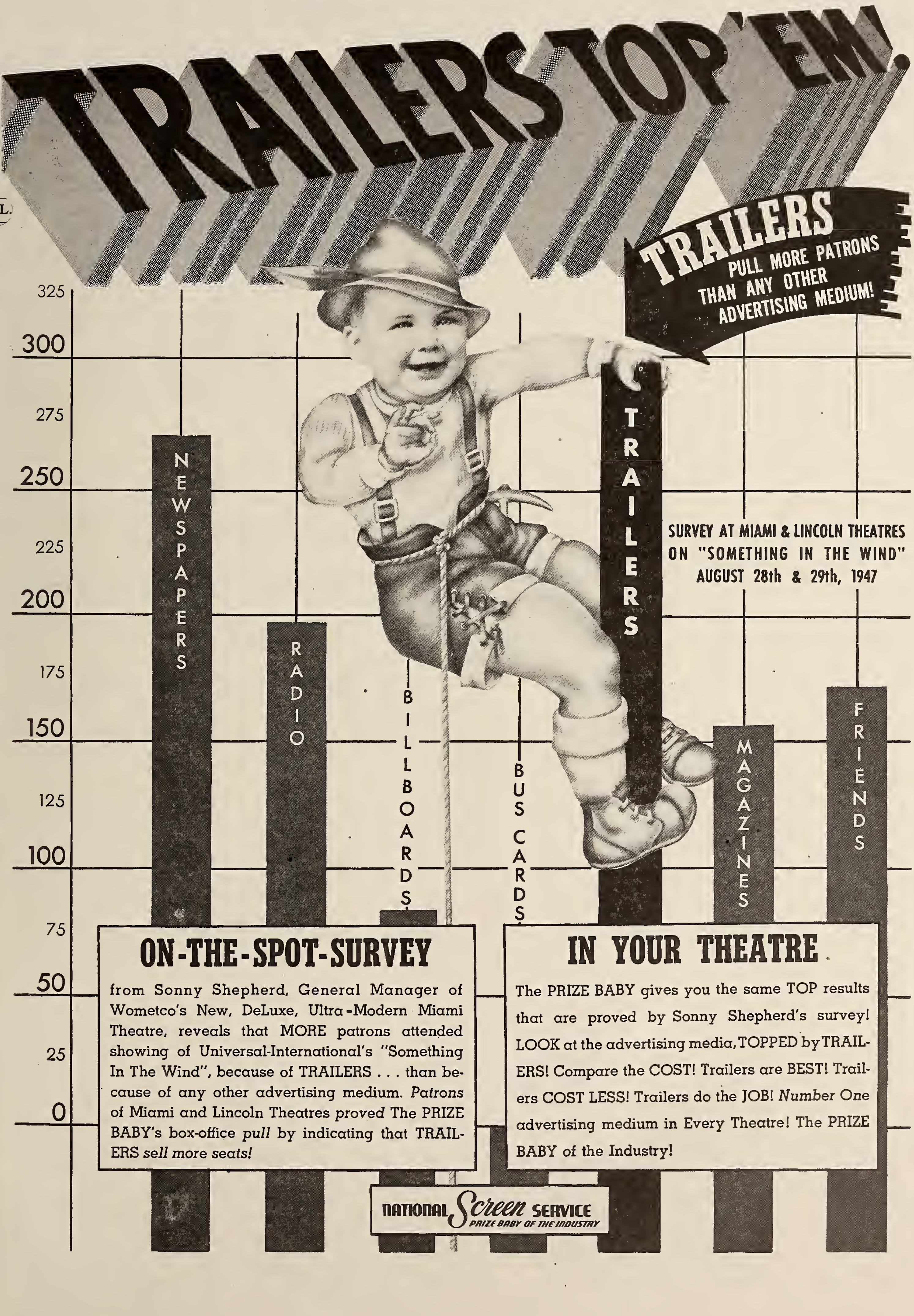

SURVEY AT MIAMI & LINCOLN THEATRES
ON "SOMETHING IN THE WIND"
AUGUST 28th & 29th, 1947

ON-THE-SPOT-SURVEY

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DOUGLAS DUMBRILLE · DENNIS HOEY · WALTER SANDS
KONSTANTIN SHAYNE · Screenplay by LAURENCE STALLINGS
adapted from original stories by LAURENCE STALLINGS and
RICHARD H. LANDAU · Produced by BENEDICT BOGEAUS
Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN

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MOTI E
DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 89 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1947 TEN CENTS

1st Definitive TOA Action Due Friday

60 Officers, Directors Will Convene in Chicago

Theatre Owners of America intends to start rolling tomorrow with its first definitive action on exhibition matters to be taken at a board meeting at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, with about 60 directors in attendance.

Ted R. Gamble, president, repeated here yesterday that admission taxes, music taxes, advanced admission-price pictures and 16mm. competition occupy the top spots on the agenda, adding

(*Continued on page* 3)

Survey Indicates Print Shortages

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Preliminary results of an Allied States survey show that film print shortages exist, growing out of the fact that there has been no recent increase in the number of prints in circulation, while the number of theatres has increased sharply.

Allied general counsel Abram F. Myers said that was his conclusion after receiving reports from 12 of 20 territories. He added that these include such key areas as Boston, Dallas,

(*Continued on page* 3)

Gov't Documentary For Theatre Release

Washington, Nov. 5.—A 1,000-foot documentary on food conservation will be produced for theatres, according to a report to President Truman by Charles Luckman, chairman of the Citizens Food Committee.

Indications are that the film will be made by Movietone News and released through the Theatre Owners of America. Earl Allvine has been loaned by Movietone to the committee as film coordinator. Spyros Skouras is a member of the committee. The report said all newsreels next week will have a three-minute Government film subject on the drive.

News Briefs

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX will not withdraw "Forever Amber" from the Fox Theatre, Philadelphia, and will make no public reply to Cardinal Dougherty's threat to impose a year's boycott against the theatre by Catholics in the Philadelphia archdiocese in consequence, a spokesman for the company said yesterday.

The deadline set by Cardinal Dougherty for withdrawal of "Amber" and "The Outlaw," the latter from William Goldman's Erlanger in Philadelphia, expired yesterday with both pictures still being played. Goldman, from California, said he would rest on the Pennsylvania censor board's approval of "Outlaw." Cardinal Dougherty's threatened boycott against the two theatres for one year, and against other houses which may play the two pictures in the archdiocese, apparently will be invoked today.

Lust Asks IndustryProbe

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Hollywood producers are urged to drive out all "alien Communist influence" and start their own investigatory proceedings, by Sidney Lust, independent theatre owner, who added he has yet to see Communist propaganda in Hollywood pictures.

Probe 'Only Begun'

The House Un-American Activities Committee has "only begun" its investigation of Communists in Hollywood,

(*Continued on page* 2)

MPTO of N.Y. Votes TOA Affiliation

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 5.—MPTO of Western New York today voted affiliation with the Theatre Owners of America. Merritt Kyser of East Aurora, N. Y., was named director to the TOA.

Addressing the meeting, Herman M. Levy, general counsel of the TOA, said, "A national, united front, insofar as that is possible, which is strong, affirmative and aggressive in its philosophy, must be available to do the fighting for exhibitors. TOA offers such an organization."

Discussing the admission tax, he asserted, "We feel that we have paved the way for favorable action in 1948 for a tax reduction of 50 per cent."

Albany Unit Affiliation Awaits Meet Tomorrow

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 5.—Decision on affiliation, officers and program of

(*Continued on page* 2)

See Attacks Spurring 'Goodwill' Campaign

Current attacks against the industry, such as the House Committee on Un-American Activities probe and a campaign for Federal censorship being conducted by Hearst's papers, will goad the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association into stepping up its public relations program, according to a member of the committee. The committee is still drawing up a program, and has not yet declared its budgetary needs. Another session to chart the group's operations will be held here today.

Eight Percentage Suits Settled

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 5.—Eight suits over receipts on percentage pictures have been ended in Federal court here with the filing of a stipulation to the effect that the defendant exhibitors having accounted to plaintiff distributors and having paid in full the amount on the accounting, the action could be voluntarily dismissed.

Separate actions were brought last year by Paramount, Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Warner, Universal, United Artists, RKO Radio and Loew's. Seventeen theatres were named: the Hippodrome and Manos in Elkins, W. Va., and the following Pennsylvania theatres: Grand, Manos, and Olympic, in Latrobe; Arcadia, Casino, and Manos Band Box, in Vanderegrift; Indiana and Manos, in Indiana; Star and Manos, in Monessen; Manos, in Blairsville; Empire, in Homer City; Manos, in Uniontown; Manos, in Holidaysburg, and the Manos, in Ellwood City.

Industry FJP Sets Quota of $325,000

A quota of $325,000 has been set for the entertainment industry in the campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, Si Fabian, chairman of the amusement division, disclosed at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday.

Committees which will conduct the drive in the entertainment division here were announced by Fabian. On the executive committee are: Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Albert Warner, William Klein, Leopold Friedman, Spyros Skouras, Herman Robbins,

(*Continued on page* 6)

Negotiations With British On Next Week

MPA's Allport To Confer With Eady in London

Negotiation of settlement of the U. S.-British film and dollar exchange discord will be started in London early next week by Fayette Allport, European manager of the Motion Picture Association, representing the American industry, it was officially stated at the MPA office here yesterday following a meeting of film company presidents and Eric A. Johnston, MPA president.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported from London yesterday that Allport already has presented to the British Treasury a proposal for remittances of 50 per cent of earnings, with the remainder to be placed in government-approved investments.

An MPA spokesman yesterday de-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Industry Affected By Tax Proposals

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—The 10-man Magill tax group advising the House Ways and Means Committee, of which Universal board chairman J. Cheever Cowdin is a member, includes the following specific recommendations which would affect film industry corporations and certain individual taxpayers:

That individuals be allowed an appropriate credit against their own taxes for taxes paid by a corporation on dividends; net operating loss carry-forward be extended from two to seven years, and the carry-back be eliminated; a smoother transition between the lowest 21 per cent rate on small corporation income and the standard corporate rate of 28 per cent; corporations receive full credit for

(*Continued on page* 3)

$27,000,000 in New Projects Vetoed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—More than $27,000,000 in theatre construction projects were vetoed by the Government in the last four months, according to the Office of the Housing Expediter.

From July 1, when current construc-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Personal Mention

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle Lion exploitation chief, will leave here today for Chicago, Oklahoma City and Memphis.

•

Roy Disney, president of Walt Disney Productions, is aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth* Europe-bound.

•

Elmer F. Lux, RKO Radio Buffalo branch manager, has been elected a city councilman in that city.

•

John K. Hilliard, Altec's chief engineer, is in Dallas from New York.

•

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion head, is in Charleston, W. V., from New York.

•

W. C. Gehring, 20th-Fox's assistant general sales manager, will return here today from Toronto.

•

Sam Kaplan, Albert Dezel Productions operations head, is here from Detroit.

•

A. Julian Brylawski, Washington MPTO president for 25 years, has been given a Cadillac by the unit for his "long and meritorious service."

•

Sid Blumenstock, 20th-Fox's assistant exploitation head, is in Chicago from here.

•

Sam L. Seidelman, Eagle-Lion foreign chief, is in Havana from New York.

•

Ben Kalmenson, Warner distribution vice-president, was in Chicago yesterday from New York.

•

John Joseph, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, will leave here tomorrow for Hollywood.

•

Marvin Faris, executive assistant to Donald Nelson, left Hollywood today to join Nelson in Washington for conferences on the British tax.

Kaufman, Howard in SRO District Posts

Seattle, Nov. 5.—Herbert Kaufman has resigned as Paramount branch manager in Seattle to join Selznick Releasing as Western district manager, succeeding John Howard, who becomes Western division manager.

Harry Haustien replaces Kaufman in the Paramount managerial post.

Certify Salesmen's Union

Washington, Nov. 5.—National Labor Relations Board spokesmen said here today that the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen has met requirements of the Taft-Hartley law and is now free to bring complaints before the board as well as ask for elections.

News Briefs

(Continued from page 1)

and will resume hearings "in a few weeks," committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas discloses. In reply to a Tuesday radio broadcast on the subject by Thomas, Paul V. McNutt, MPA counsel said: "We have said all along that there are Communists in Hollywood, but have insisted that they have not gotten their propaganda on the screen. Let Thomas get down to facts on pictures, as he said he would."

Favor Johnston Stand

Washington, Nov. 5.—MPA head Eric Johnston's mail is running three to one in favor of his stand on the House Un-American Activities Committee probe of alleged Communist infiltration in films, according to the MPA.

Cinema Lodge Meeting

Judge Samuel Leibowitz will be honored for "outstanding Americanism" tonight by Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith at the Hotel Astor.

Paramount Central Meet

Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution chief, and E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, sales executive, are in Chicago today for conferences with James J. Donohue, Central division sales manager, and all Central division branch managers.

No Capone Film: Breen

Hollywood, Nov. 5.—Without referring to a report published by Westbrook Pegler that a film biography of the late Al Capone is contemplated, Joseph Breen, Production Code Administrator, today denied plans by "anyone in Hollywood" to make such a film, pointing out that several times previously stories based on the gangster's life were rejected by the PCA.

To Address Pioneers

Eric Johnston, MPA president, will be principal speaker at the Picture Pioneers dinner on Nov. 19 at the Plaza Hotel, here.

Screen Aids 'Food Train'

Hollywood, Nov. 5.—Louis K. Sidney, aided by Jack Cummings and Eddie Buzzell on entertainment, will head the opening events here Friday starting the transcontinental food collection tour of the "Friendship Food Train" on its way. Harry M. Warner is national chairman, and Dick Dickson is coordinator.

Joan Crawford Party

Twentieth Century-Fox was host yesterday to Joan Crawford at a cocktail party at Hampshire House here attended by newspaper, trade press and fan magazine representatives and company executives. A. W. Smith, Jr., Charles Schlaifer, Otto Preminger, Louella Parsons and others were among those present.

Industry to Aid UN

The Motion Picture Association has been asked to name a committee which, along with representatives of other communications media, would aid in charting a program to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolution condemning all propaganda "inimical to world peace."

Favors Poll on N.Y. Special Tax Plan

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 5.—Assemblyman Orlo Brees, Broome County Republican who opposed the special tax program for counties and larger cities last winter, announced today that he will introduce an amendment requiring counties to hold referendums before enacting special taxes. Brees said: "If such an amendment can be adopted, and I believe it can, I have no objection to letting the law stand."

Charles D. Breitel, counsel to Governor Thomas E. Dewey, recently said that the administration would accede to a request by the Mayors' conference to extend special taxing privileges, now reserved to cities of more than 100,000 population, to all cities.

Forbes Cites Executives

Eric Johnston, MPA head; Samuel Goldwyn, Robert R. Young, Nelson A. Rockefeller, David Sarnoff and L. M. Giannini are among 50 business leaders who were cited last night by *Forbes Magazine*.

SAG Bars 'Reds' in Office

Hollywood, Nov. 5.—The Screen Actors Guild will fight for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law; seek actor participation in revenues from reissues; bar from office, directorate or committee membership anybody declining to sign an affidavit he is not a member of the Communist Party or any organization believing in the overthrow of the American Government, if the outstanding resolutions among 21 to be submitted to the membership at the annual meeting on Nov. 16 are adopted.

SWG Elections Nov. 19

Hollywood, Nov. 5.—With balloting set for Nov. 19, the Screen Writers Guild will meet here tomorrow to discuss election issues and candidates, with Sheridan Gibney nominated for president. Two factions stress opposition to the Taft-Hartley law, but each is committed to sign non-Communist affidavits, if elected, if and when the union seeks to use the National Labor Relations Board.

Withdraws Application

Republic has withdrawn its SEC registration application for the sale of 184,821 shares of $1 cumulative convertible preferred and 277,231 common shares, because of "general conditions," and, according to Joseph E. McMahon, company secretary, no new filing is contemplated for the present.

Childs Buys 5 Exchanges

Denver, Nov. 5.—Five exchanges of Selected Pictures, along with franchises of Astor Pictures, and others, have been acquired from Tom Bailey by Frank Childs, formerly of RKO Radio. They are located in Denver, Salt Lake City, Kansas City, Omaha and Des Moines.

Newsreel Parade

HOWARD HUGHES taking his flying boat into the air is a highlight of all the newsreels this week. Also occupying a prominent place in all the reels are football thrills. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 20—Hughes flying boat takes to the air. Man O' War dies. Football thrills.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 218—Super flying boat, piloted by Hughes, on first test. Communists riot in France. Notre Dame vs. Navy, Michigan vs. Illinois.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 21—Howard Hughes' flying boat takes to the air. Repatriation: Yugoslavs leave Canada, Armenians sail from Palestine. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 88—Hughes tests plane on eve of inquiry. Football thrills of the week.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 23—Hughes flies biggest plane. Princess Elizabeth launches liner. Art forger on trial in Holland. One-man coal mine. Circus wedding in Paris. Football.

MPTO of N.Y. in TOA

(Continued from page 1)

the Albany TOA exhibitor group will be made following the return of Harry Lamont, president of Lamont Theatres, and Leonard Rosenthal, co-counsel and adviser on buying for Upstate Theatres, from the Theatre Owners of America convention in Chicago Nov. 7-8. Lamont was chosen president of the local unit last week, but has resigned the office.

Rosenthal, who has been favorable to the organization of a local Allied unit, has not committed himself on the TOA, while Lamont said he decided to support the TOA because it appeared able to do most for independent exhibitors.

Capital Showmen Split On TOA Affiliation

Washington, Nov. 5.—Exhibitors here are split on affiliating the local MPTO with the TOA. At a meeting of the MPTO this week, agreement could not be reached, with representatives of RKO, Warner and Loew's opposing such a move, and independents "almost 100 per cent in favor." A motion was finally tabled and two members were named to go to the TOA board meeting in Chicago as "observers." The motion will again be taken up after a report from the observers, A. Julian Brylawski, president of the MPTO here, and Sidney Lust.

Louisville Group Reelects Officers

Louisville, Nov. 5.—Officers of the Louisville Park Theatrical Association, headed by James Henning, have been reelected, and six new directors named, including Barry Bingham, George Egger, William Faversham, Jr., Clarence Meloy, Clyde Reeves and Douglas McKellar. Three retiring directors, Mark Ethridge, E. J. O'Brien and R. J. Hardesty were selected trustees.

Observe Picket Line

Hollywood, Nov. 4.—By a majority vote, the machinists studio local No. 1185 voted to observe the carpenters' studio picket line.

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UK Cancels a Film Duty—The Low One

Britain's penny-a-foot import duty for "single copy" English lauguage films, which was in effect before the confiscatory 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax was imposed, has been cancelled, according to press dispatches from London.

Commenting on the delay in cancelling the low rate duty, one British film executive stationed here said that the fact it should be erased was "probably overlooked."

Review

"The Fugitive"

(Argosy-RKO Radio)

THE moving tragedy of a priest being hunted down by anti-religious militarists has been turned into a motion picture of unforgettable excellence. It is a tale of power, compassion and integrity, one which invites comparison with any of the great creative dramas the screen has provided.

John Ford, master of the effectively projected mood, has directed the cast with a sure and discriminating touch. As the priest, Henry Fonda's role dominates throughout, and he interprets it with sensitivity and and artistry. The same is to be said of the subsidiary characterizations as played by Dolores Del Rio, Pedro Armendariz, J. Carrol Naish, Leo Carrillo and Ward Bond. The story is one which departs from the familiar plot patterns. As such, it may not turn up spectacular grosses, but like that other fine Ford film, "The Informer," it is sure, by its eminence, to bring in reliable returns. What is really important, Ford has elevated the standard of film-making, and that reflects to the good of the entire industry.

For the sake of dramatic focus, the film centers in Mexico at a time of persecution of the Roman Catholic Church, but actually it is an allegory that could happen any time and any place. The military government is out to eradicate religion. It is dangerous. When it is learned that a priest is secretly administering to men's souls, the manhunt is on. After a series of harrowing incidents, the priest reaches the sanctuary of a bordering state. Then comes word that a dying gangster is in need of last rites. Half suspecting the ruse; the priest goes to the stricken man's aid, and finally, the firing squad. Throughout, the poignancy of the priests' dilemma is heightened by the photography of Gabriel Figueroa which captures moods beautifully.

Beneath the story of the hunted priest, the discerning film-goer will catch a larger story. It is Christianity itself that is the fugitive, in flight from its persecutors down the dark night of centuries. As the priest proceeds to his appointment with death, there turn up portrayals which are mad symbols of modern age. There is the cringing betrayer who poses as a friend (Naish); the barbaric man-on-horseback who renders unto Caesar (Armendariz); the American thug whose world is loot (Ward Bond); and finally, the lovely and well-remembered Miss Rio as the dancer in whom the desires of the flesh collide with the love of the Church.

A Mexican-made Argosy Pictures production, it is presented by Ford and Merian C. Cooper, and released through RKO Radio. It is a picture of enduring worth, with the screenplay by Dudley Nichols from the novel, "The Labyrinthine Ways" by Graham Greene, with Emilio Fernandez as associate producer.

Running time, 104 minutes. General audience classification. Set for November release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

TOA Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

that preliminary work on these matters already has been done by various committees. He described the meeting as a means of obtaining "an authorized line of approach" concerning the problems facing exhibitors..

Business of the board, Gamble continued, also will include ratification of officers elected at TOA's Washington convention, appointment of an executive committee of seven, amendments to the by-laws, selection of headquarters, an appropriation for tax research and ratification of an insignia. It was reported that TOA may abandon New York headquarters in favor of either Washington or Hollywood.

Tax Proposals

(*Continued from page 1*)

dividends from other corporations already subject to Federal tax, instead of the present 85 per cent credit; individuals whose income fluctuates sharply be permitted to average incomes over several tax years; continuation of the current rate and method of taxing capital gains, but modified to close loopholes and to give equitable treatment to capital losses; make clear that taxes are to be levied on gains resulting from corporate reorganization only where the Government can show they were intended to evade taxes.

Also made was a suggestion that foreign earnings be included in the income bracket for taxation "only at the time the income can be transmitted to the U. S. in dollars."

Print Shortages

(*Continued from page 1*)

Minneapolis and New Orleans, and that he expects results from the other eight areas to bear out the early picture.

Myers said that the number of theatres has increased by more than 3,000 since 1939, but that not a single territory reported an increase in the number of prints in its area. One or two territories even reported fewer prints available, he said.

Tax Break Means Labor Peace: BOT

LONDON, Nov. 5.—Most outstanding disputes pending between industry unions and British producers will be solved automatically in the event of an early settlement of the *ad valorem* tax impasse, the British Board of Trade observes in commenting on any proposals which the Motion Picture Association of America may submit for negotiating a solution.

BOT added that the new UK quota bill will be introduced in the House of Commons before Christmas. It will be long-term legislation, BOT said, but indicated that in the event the bill becomes operative before settlement of the tax deadlock, the government would have to exercise its emergency powers when the impasse breaks, for that would nullify some quota provisions.

U. K. Negotiations

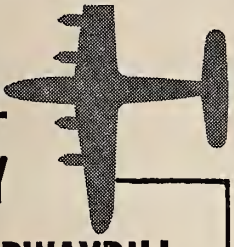
(*Continued from page 1*)

nied that any formal proposal had been submitted.

Allport will confer with Sir Wilfred Eady, highly placed British Treasury official, who has consented to a consideration of an alternative to the present 75 per cent tax law in communications with Johnston through the British Embassy in Washington the latter part of last month. Johnston approached Eady on the possibility of a compromise during the past summer when the latter headed the British delegation here to ease the requirements of the $3,750,000,000 U. S. loan.

Allport's assignment is described as "preliminary" to determine the attitude of the British regarding an acceptable formula and to express to them the position of the American companies.

There is at present no plan for a U. S. film delegation to visit London, although such a mission would appear likely after Allport paves the way for a solution of the problem. Eady is not known to be intending to visit this country.



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it's no **SECRET**

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is the biggest

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to hit the screen

...Samuel Goldwyn

has hit it again!

records show that the

OF MITTY"

NEW YORK—ELEVENTH BIG WEEK AT THE ASTOR AND STILL GOING STRONG.

"A Rip-Roaring film. Hilarious and exciting." —*Sun*

"A Big, colorful show and a good one . . . vastly entertaining." —*Times*

DETROIT—MITTY BREAKING ALL HOUSE RECORDS for opening week at Adams. Outdistancing box-office of previous national champions to play this house.

PHILADELPHIA—"MITTY SOCKEROO — A TERRIFIC SENSATION AT THE STANLEY."

"The most successfully hilarious Kaye the screen has yet shown." —*Variety*

—*Bulletin*

"Kaye's funniest to date . . . a bright new Technicolor quill in Samuel Goldwyn's cap." —*Inquirer*

CHICAGO—OPENING DAY RECORD AT WOODS THEATRE. SECOND DAY EVEN BETTER. ELEVENTH WEEK!

"The man's an undoubted genius . . . completely hilarious." —*Times*

"Mark up another success for Danny Kaye." —*Tribune*

PITTSBURGH—"AFTER TERRIFIC FIRST WEEK AT STANLEY, 'WALTER MITTY' STILL SOCKO IN SECOND STANZA."—*Variety*

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

COLOR BY
TECHNICOLOR

Projects Vetoed

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion curbs went into effect, through Oct. 31, OHE denied 593 applications for projects valued at $27,412,291. During the same period, it approved 243 projects, valued at only $8,850,703.

Tendency to deny the larger projects is shown by the fact that the average size of the approved projects is a little over $36,000, while the average for the ones turned down is over $46,000.

Fabian Loses Frequency

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—The Federal Communications Commission today gave a final turndown to the application of Van Curler Broadcasting Corp., controlled by Si Fabian and some associates in Fabian Theatres, for the broadcasting frequency used by Station WOKO at Albany, N. Y.

Second for Rank - RKO

RKO Radio's second picture to be made in England in association with J. Arthur Rank will be "The Captain Was a Lady," to be produced next summer by William Pereira. "So Well Remembered," initial picture jointly made by the two, will soon have its American premiere on Broadway.

Rains Cut Receipts

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 5.—Heavy rains in both Oregon and Washington, varying from nine to 14 inches—most unusual—has caused a drop in box-office receipts estimated from 15 to 20 per cent.

Fisher House Burns

OMAHA, Nov. 5.—Fire destroyed the Gem at neighboring Valley, Neb. John Fisher operated.

Review

"Song of My Heart"

(*Allied Artists—Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 3

WITH a distinguished music score featuring an almost faultless production, plus some of the finest acting seen in many a day, this first picture based on the life and loves of the famed Russian composer Tchaikovsky, is a proud achievement for the screen.

The role of Tchaikovsky introduces a noted Swedish screen star, Frank Sundstrom, whose understanding and finely restrained playing of the part, as well as his striking resemblance to the composer at the prime of his career, makes his bow to American audiences an auspicious one. Audrey Long, a comparative newcomer to films, portraying a princess of Czarist Russia whose love for the composer is frustrated by imperial interference and his subsequent death during a cholera plague, gives her role high emotional quality and regal bearing. Others among the featured players are Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Mikhail Rasumny and Galê Sherwood, with Rasumny playing a kind of dual role—that of a present day Russian officer narrating the story, and as Tchaikovsky's adoring valet, providing an outstanding performance. Among the big supporting cast, other acting honors go to Lester Sharpe, Serge Krizman, John Hamilton and Steve Darrell.

The entertaining and authentic screen story is a fulfillment of a long cherished project by the well-known orchestra director, Nathaniel Finston, who with J. Theodore Reed produced the picture.

Finston selected the cream of Tchaikovsky's classic compositions for the film's musical scene. They include the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Symphonies, Concerto No. 1, Overture 1812, March Slav, Nutcracker ballets, the Juliet Fantasy, and others. Two songs on Tchaikovsky themes are also sung. As writer and director, Benjamin Glazer comes in for a double portion of praise for his work.

In an American officers' club during the last war, a Russian lieutenant tells the story of Tchaikovsky's life and loves. Quoting his father, who was the composer's valet, he relates the love of a Russian princess for the composer; how she made it possible, after his unhappy marriage, to have his music published. She has an *affaire grande* with him in Italy—one that is interrupted by her father, a Grand Duke. Heartbroken and disillusioned, Tchaikovsky leaves Russia to play his music in other lands. Returning world famous, the composer and princess meet again. Her royal father relents and bids her take up her love where she left off. Before the princess and composer can resume their romance, he is stricken during a cholera epidemic and dies—with her at his bedside.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 17.

W. J. MCGRATH

Set FJP Quota

(*Continued from page* 1)

Nate Spingold, Matthew Fox, Murray Silverstone, Harry Brandt, Fred Schwartz, Sam Rosen, Joseph Bernhard, Sam Rinzler, Max Cohen, and Edward Schreiber, plus chairmen of all other committees.

Other committees named we Corporate gifts: Balaban, chairm and the presidents of all companies; special gifts: Malcolm Kingsberg, chairman; Joseph R. Vogel and Charles C. Moskowitz; exhibitors: Brandt, Schwartz, Rinzler, Cohen and David Weinstock, co-chairmen; entertainment: Henry Jaffe and Bob Weitman, co-chairmen; publicity: Edward Schreiber, chairman; Maurice Kann, Jack Alicoate, Martin Quigley, Sr., Abel Green, Morton Sunshine, Tom Kennedy, Mel Konecoff, James Jerauld, Jack Levin; vendors: B. S. Moss, chairman; entertainment: Henry Jaffe and Bob Weitman, co-chairmen.

Corporate chairmen for the film companies were listed as follows:

Abe Schneider, Max Seligman, Columbia; Joseph R. Vogel, Leopold Friedman, Irving Greenfield, Eugene Picker, Loew's; Leonard Goldenson, Arthur Israel, Jr., Lou Novins, Edward L. Hyman, Paramount; Joseph Bernhard, Film Classics; Edward Morey, Monogram; Ralph Poucher, Consolidated Film; Charles Boasberg, Sol Schwartz, RKO; Dan Michalove, Sam Shain, 20th-Fox; Edward Schnitzer, United Artists; Joseph Seidelman, Sam Machnovitch and Adolph Schimmel, Universal; Sam Schneider, Harold Rodner, Warner Brothers; Al Schwalberg, Eagle Lion.

MOTION PICTURE ASS'N OF AMERICA
Presents
The 2-reel
production
POWER
BEHIND THE
NATION
For the Benefit of the DAMON RUNYON Memorial Fund
produced by
WARNER BROS. PRINT BY TECHNICOLOR

"Every theatre owner should be proud of the opportunity to present it on his screen! It not only is very inspiring, but also is very good entertainment!"
says: Hugh W. Bruen
Trustee, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 90 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1947 TEN CENTS

U. K. Officials Match Views On '50-50' Plan

This Before Negotiating Alternative to 75% Tax

LONDON, Nov. 6.—Government officials of the various departments concerned with the British-U. S. film and dollar exchange are now coordinating departmental viewpoints following study of a report by Walter R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, preliminary to the opening of negotiations by the Motion Picture Association's European manager, Fayette W. Allport, and Sir Wilfred Eady, British treasury official, probably on Monday.

It was confirmed again here today that the plan developed by Fuller and Eric A. Johnston, MPA president,

(Continued on page 6)

No 'Nationalization' For UK Films: BOT

LONDON, Nov. 6.—Harold Wilson, president of the British Board of Trade, maintains that the Labor Government does not intend to reorganize production and distribution of British films, nor does it plan to nationalize the industry. Wilson made these indications in reply to questions put to him in the House of Commons by Sir Waldron Smithers.

When Sir Waldron asked whether nationalization was intended and whether there will be a "film commissar," Wilson said: "It is not the intention to do what Sir Waldron has in mind. I haven't heard the word 'commissar' used in my depart-

(Continued on page 6)

3% Amusement Tax Passes in Chicago

Chicago, Nov. 6.—The city council today passed a local three per cent amusement tax, effective Jan. 1.

The industry expects to contest the validity of the ordinance, according to Edwin Silverman, president of the S and S circuit and chairman of the Amusement Industry of Chicago, an organization formed to combat the tax measure.

Says Distributors Aim for 50% Of Foreign Revenue

Probable policy objective of major companies in foreign markets from now on will be to retain through negotiation 50 per cent of earnings abroad—with efforts to be made to avoid any taxation so that the remaining 50 per cent would be "frozen" for remittance to the U. S. when economies in dollar-pressed countries are stabilized, a ranking foreign department executive said yesterday.

The highly-placed executive described this as "realistic thinking," but added some companies, particularly the independent producing firms,

(Continued on page 7)

8 More Percentage Suits Are Filed

CHICAGO, Nov. 6.—Separate percentage suits were filed in U. S. District Court here today by Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, United Artists, Universal and Warner Brothers, naming E. E. Alger, Harold A. Alger and William R. Alger, as well

(Continued on page 6)

Allied Will Test Per-Piece Licenses

Allied States Association will have one or more exhibitor members attempt to negotiate with Ascap on a per-piece basis, in an effort to comply with recent suggestion of the Department of Justice that exhibitors request Ascap to issue a separate license for each musical number to be reproduced in a picture. Under the present system Ascap issues a blanket license, for which the society has pending a rate increase of as much as 300 per cent.

The exhibitors who will make the experiment and the way it will be undertaken will probably be determined at Allied's board meeting in Milwaukee at the end of the month. Ascap

(Continued on page 6)

FP Canada Names Tax Study Group

MONTREAL, Nov. 6.—Famous Players Canadian Corp., largest circuit in Canada, has created a special committee to study the possible effect of current and future tax measures on theatre operation. The unit is expected to collaborate with similar committees throughout the Dominion, in a move

(Continued on page 7)

AFTERMATH OF THE WASHINGTON INQUIRY

. . . An Editorial

By MARTIN QUIGLEY

THE conclusion last week of what may be only the first phase of public hearings by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities leaves the public relations status of the organized industry in a condition of considerable disrepair.

Because of public interest in the subject matter and the attraction-value of Hollywood names the hearings resulted in an avalanche of newspaper and other publicity, most of which was quite the reverse of what the motion picture needs in its relations with its customers.

Very little of a desirable character fell by chance to the industry. Still less was created for it. The hearings, of course, offered no field-day of useful opportunity for the industry but had a clear and positive course of policy—with an avoidance of by-play—been followed there is good reason for believing that the net result would have been decidedly on the better side.

The Committee hearings inevitably raised two principal questions—each separate and distinct. The one which confronted the organized industry with a clear and sharp responsibility concerns the question whether or not the theatrical motion picture, offered to the public, was allowed to become flavored with propaganda hostile to the United States and its institutions. Pursuit of the an-

(Continued on page 3)

Bid for Lower Music Taxes Made By TOA

Negotiations Already Started with ASCAP

CHICAGO, Nov. 6. — Officers of Theatre Owners of America already have opened negotiations with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for lower theatre music license rates than those presently announced to become effective Feb. 1, it was learned here today as the TOA management committee met at the Stevens Hotel in advance of TOA's first board of directors meeting to be held here tomorrow and Saturday.

A report on the initial TOA negotiations with Ascap will be made to the board tomorrow. In addition, the negotiating committee will ask the board for instructions and authorization to

(Continued on page 6)

Operators Strike For 1st-Run Wage

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 6.—Operators of IATSE projectionists local No. 150 walked out of 11 Fox West Coast theatres last night, compelling shutdowns, when FWC management declined to pay the first-run scale which the union insisted applies when houses, not normally running first-run pictures, are used for first-runs. "Forever Amber," which opened in 26 theatres a week ago was the picture involved.

(An agreement made last night between the union and FWC executives called for an immediate return of the projectionists.)

FWC executives maintain that the

(Continued on page 7)

Keep Upped Prices For 'Unconquered'

CHICAGO, Nov. 6.—Advanced prices for "Unconquered" will be definitely continued, according to a statement made by James J. Donohue, Paramount Central division salesmanager, after a meeting of Paramount branch and district managers held here today.

Donohue said that the public is buying the picture and making it one of the heaviest grossers in the country. thereby determining company policy.

Personal Mention

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew's general theatre executive, is visiting Loew's theatres in Columbus, Dayton, Indianapolis and Evansville.

•

John F. Reeder, vice-president of Walt Disney Studios, and **Vernon C. Caldwell**, director of public relations, returned to the Coast yesterday from New York.

•

Samuel Goldwyn will deliver an address before the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York at the Hotel Astor next Thursday.

•

Morris Goodman, president and general manager of Discina International Films Corp. will leave New York for Paris this weekend to look over completed Discina productions.

•

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, will leave the Coast today by plane for New York.

•

Joseph Breen, Production Code Administrator, will leave his Hollywood office Nov. 17 for a three-month vacation on doctor's orders.

•

Francis S. Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, New York, will speak before a YMCA rally in Memphis Nov. 10.

•

Dave Flexer of Flexer Theatres, Inc., is in New York from Memphis on a business trip.

•

Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox director of exhibitor relations, is in Chicago on a business trip.

•

H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor and public relations chief, is visiting Chicago, Minneapolis and Des Moines.

•

Arthur Kelly, vice-president of United Artists, is flying from Hollywood to New York.

AAA Appeal Board Makes 136th Ruling

Ruling that the arbitrator correctly held that there is insufficient competition between the Community Theatre, Wakefield, R. I., and five first-runs and one subsequent-run in Providence, the motion picture appeal board of the American Arbitration Association has sustained the award prohibiting five majors from granting clearance over the Community, operated by complainant Narragansett Pier Amusement Corp. It was the 136th ruling to be made by the board since 1941.

Lodge Honors Leibowitz

More than 500 persons of the motion picture and allied entertainment industry joined Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith in its tribute to Judge S. Leibowitz at the Hotel Astor here last night. Robert M. Weitman, Cinema Lodge president, presented Judge Leibowitz with an honor scroll.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE Hearst press, via the *Journal-American* in New York, now takes to the editorial soap-box on behalf of Federal censorship, building its unwarranted position on the investigation of the Un-American Activities Committee, which "has made alarming revelations of a veritable multitude of Communists in the film industry."

This represents a departure from fact practically at the outset. The committee never claimed a "veritable multitude" and at no point referred to more than 79 individuals. Hollywood employs about 30,000.

The Hearst position, however, is predicated on a more serious approach. Because "Hollywood film companies . . . do not intend to debar Reds from profitable employment in their concerns, and to eliminate their debasing influence from the motion picture theatres," the conclusion is the producers are refusing to censor themselves "even out of loyalty to the country, if from no lower motive."

This leads to: "Consequently, the motion picture industry has made it necessary for the Federal Government to censor the films and to prevent further privileged indoctrination by the high-salaried camp followers of revolutionary Stalinism."

■

Not only has the organized industry's position been misrepresented. It has been ignored. It was made quite clear a number of times during the Washington hearings that any suggestion of a blacklist debarring proven Communists—proven, that is—from employment in positions where they might influence film content was held to be conspiratorial and therefore illegal by motion picture counsel.

Principally, however, it was explained the industry relied on the position that formal action could not be undertaken unless [1] Congress devised machinery defining a Communist, [2] established a method of proving a person to be a Communist, and [3] determined a Communist to be an agent of a foreign government committed to the overthrow of the prevailing American system by force or unconstitutional means.

■

Moreover, any question of the loyalty of the industry is sheer nonsense. Committed to a continuing program of drawing red herrings across the trail, the Hearst press must be aware it does so again with a charge as phony as this.

But, perhaps erroneous beyond all others, is the assumption that Federal censorship is a need in order to prevent "further privileged indoctrination." Such indoctrination cannot be found because it does not exist so that the unanswered challenge hurled at the Thomas committee to put up or shut up where product is concerned applies here as well. The producers who have accepted public responsibility for what they make will find such a charge offensive.

■

There is need to point out, too, that the Hearst press, always a champion of free enterprise and death to the state which rises above the dignity of the individual, now comes forth in argument for the reverse. Government censorship of motion pictures would mean Government interference in an industry functioning successfully under the free enterprise system.

This industry would not be free under a Federal commission superimposed upon its operations. It would be converted into a Government-controlled and Government-shackled industry answerable to a commission born out of politics and subject to that which political appointment implies.

■ ■

About the Thomas committee:

This was a body of investigation, which means it was a body dealing with facts—established facts, not hearsay. In its memorandum on Dalton Trumbo, however, it accepted as fact that Paramount had not produced "The Remarkable Andrew," which he wrote, on the grounds it was anti-war and anti-British.

The fact is Paramount did make the picture.

In its memorandum on Edward Dmytryk, the committee presented as fact that this director had produced "The White Tower."

The fact is this film has not been made.

A reasonable question, therefore, is what else, offered as fact in Washington, was not fact. Perhaps, nothing. Perhaps, something.

The reasonable point is: How large, or how small, becomes the area of doubt?

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

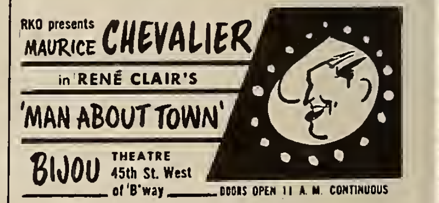
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N.Y. SHOWING!
RED SKELTON
IN M-G-M's
'MERTON OF THE MOVIES'
IN PERSON
THE VAGABONDS
EDITH FELLOWS
Extra!
MARY RAYE & NALDI
ALAN CARNEY

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. and J. Arthur Rank present
JOHN MILLS • MARTHA SCOTT • PATRICIA ROC
in JAMES HILTON'S
So Well Remembered

PARAMOUNT'S
"VARIETY GIRL"
starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY



RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
FOREVER AMBER
TECHNICOLOR
20th CENTURY-FOX
starring LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE • GEORGE SANDERS
ON STAGE!
Veloz and Yolanda
Extra Added Attraction
Sid Caesar
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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AFTERMATH OF THE WASHINGTON INQUIRY

By MARTIN QUIGLEY

(Continued from p. 1)

swer to that question in face of the present state of international political and allied matters obviously was a proper undertaking on the part of the Congressional committee.

The other question has to do with whether or not there are persons of Communistic complexion employed in Hollywood, who they are and what they do. That a committee of Congress, bearing a mandate to investigate Un-American activities should be interested in this question ought not be a matter of bewilderment to any intelligent and informed person.

* * *

THE Committee members, like a lot of other persons inside and outside the industry who sound off on motion pictures, obviously were not sufficiently familiar with the content of motion pictures to know whether there were grounds for a suspicion that Un-American propaganda had wormed its way upon the screen. In preliminary investigations in Hollywood and elsewhere the Committee appears to have been supplied with a wealth of mis-information. In the absence of first-hand information or reliable guidance they jumped to the conclusion that a list of pictures could be compiled which would prove that the responsible executives of the industry had been off watch.

But the Committee has found—or must inevitably find—that no such list can be compiled for the simple and decisive reason that the responsible executives of the industry have not been off watch. It is true that a few subjects made during the terrible days of the war, when even our Government was doing handsprings to favor and encourage our Communistic ally, look strange if not ridiculous from the vantage point of the year 1947. But to make these pictures at this time the subject of serious investigation and study is absurd on its face.

It might also have dawned upon the Committee that motion pictures are not produced and then kept as secret documents. In fact, there is not a single case on record in which a producer was not quite willing to have his picture inspected by the largest possible number of persons and in pursuit of that purpose he frequently has gone to considerable effort and expense.

Hence the Committee, from the start, might well have assured itself without undue exertion or resourcefulness that had the theatres become cesspools of Un-American propaganda the several thousand American business men who conduct these theatres, and their customers, would have long since been heard from.

* * *

OF curse, extremists of the Left or the Right, and occasionally even Moderates, find things in motion pictures which they don't like and which they imagine serve political and social viewpoints with which they disagree. This is inevitable in the medium and the actual record, under any reasonable test, falls so far short of a judgment of Communistic coloration that no sensible person should be found concerning himself about it.

When the Committee discovered that there is employed in Hollywood a considerable number of persons who by every practicable and reasonable test are Communistic or bedfellows of the same it discovered only what every informed person has long since known. To have such persons publicly identified for what they are, by appropriate proof, is a logical function of the Committee with which no one should quarrel. The Committee chose to proceed in this matter in a manner calculated to create an impression that the employing firms had either been hiding the accused persons or that their Communistic leanings were unknown.

The employing firms had not, of course, been hiding the accused persons and in most instances their Communistic inclinations were not only known but well-known. But just what an employer is expected to do in the circumstance the Committee, if it has any ideas, has signally failed to make them known. Obviously, if an employee is known to have or is suspected to have Communistic leanings the employer is under responsibility to make sure that the employee does not use the product to advance his political purposes. The record proves that this precaution has been exercised. Whatever else there is to be done remains, first, for Congress to say and, next, for the law enforcement agencies to do. The American system at no point provides for individuals or business firms to make laws or to enforce them.

* * *

ALL of this seems to us to be the plain commonsense of this whole difficult situation. And, further, it seems to us that it is unfortunate this simple, straight-line position was not more sharply adhered to and more emphatically gotten across to the Committee and to the public. Instead, however, many extraneous and confusing avenues were pursued from time to time—with little consistency in any of these several procedures.

The Committee was repeatedly called upon to disclose the catalogue of suspect pictures which it had more or less vaguely referred to. That was all to the good. In fact this matter was of such paramount importance that everything else was beside the point. Perhaps Congress made a mistake in creating this committee and assigning to it a particular mandate; namely, to find out about Un-American activities, if any. But the organized industry only served to place itself in a defensive and suspect position by raising in the midst of the inquiry a cry against the committee and the star-chamber proceedings which have long been characteristic of Congressional committee inquiries.

And of even worse practical effect on the public relations of the industry was the fact that the industry's quarrel with the Committee over procedures, the raising of the question of freedom of expression and individual rights served to confuse the industry in the public mind with a strange assortment of persons who are seeking to operate as enemy agents in the comfortable sanctuary of Hollywood. These perverted persons have long been a recognized menace in Hollywood. If this Congressional committee or any other agency can help Hollywood get rid of them such action should be encouraged.

* * *

THAT some persons in Hollywood have been off-watch, if not indulgent, in dealing with these individuals is an obvious fact. Aside from any legal responsibility, executives who have kept individuals employed in writing, directing and producing motion pictures with knowledge of their hostility to the United States and allegiance to a foreign tyranny will not easily be able to answer the question that is now in the minds of millions of the American people. Certainly no answer will be even an excuse unless the executives plead that they did not know that the motion picture screen is the weapon most coveted for the arsenal of the Communist propagandist.

Let it not be forgotten that in the United States there is a rising temper, in the government and amongst the people, against Communism and the tyranny that is promoting it throughout the world. The motion picture would not now be enjoying the cherished position it holds with the whole public if it were suspect of Communistic taint. But that public will not be pleased to know this one fact alone: That there are so many people in Hollywood who refuse to stand up and be counted on America's side.

The ordeal at Washington has not been profitable or pleasant. The industry's public relations have suffered a set-back but this can be repaired. Eventually the committee must produce a list of suspect pictures or acknowledge that its suspicions have not been substantiated. In either case the outcome will be the same and the industry as such will be cleared on the one vital consideration involved. In the meantime the industry should seek no partnership —and allow itself to be pressed into no partnership—with persons and purposes that make for bad company.

This is an Announcement

TO EVERY EXHIBITOR

The motion picture version of

GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT

has been completed!

This is the Laura Z. Hobson story that first startled 20,000,000 readers in Cosmopolitan Magazine.

This is the novel that, for months, has been high among the best-sellers of the nation.

This is the motion picture created by the combined talents of:

MOSS HART, who did the screenplay.

ELIA KAZAN, who directed.

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, who chose this for his personal production.

GREGORY PECK, who plays Phil—

DOROTHY McGUIRE, who plays Kathy—

JOHN GARFIELD, who plays Dave.

20th CENTURY-FOX, at whose studios it was produced.

This is the announcement of the World Premiere

at the

MAYFAIR THEATRE, N. Y.

AND

APOLLO THEATRE, CHICAGO

Tuesday, November 11th

News Briefs

THE U. S. Government held in Federal Court here yesterday that National Theatres' building of a theatre at Watsonville, Cal., is a violation of the consent decree, thus upholding the position of Homer Tegtmeier, owner of the Vogue, Salinas, Cal., who charges also in the suit against 20th-Fox and National that opening of the latter's Salinas at Salinas is a violation of the decree. The hearing was before Judge John Bright.

Defense attorney Fred W. Pride, contended yesterday that Tegtmeier is unqualified to bring the action because no damages are involved, because the Salinas was completed before the effective date of the decree, and because plaintiff was not a party to the decree. Bright reserved decision.

MPA Starts Worldwide Survey of Theatres

Motion Picture Association has launched its worldwide survey of theatres, supplementing its series of domestic directories. First overseas report is on Alexandria and Cairo, Egypt, and lists 28 theatres for the first city and 63 for Cairo. Other facts: 30 per cent of Alexandria's and 35 per cent of Cairo's houses show U. S. product only; U. S. plus native or foreign product is shown in an additional 52 per cent of Alexandria theatres, and 35 per cent in Cairo.

Goldwyn Tells Critics: Don't Blame Industry for Poor Films

Film critics of New York newspapers were urged by Samuel Goldwyn at a luncheon at the 21 Club here this week not to blame all of Hollywood for a poor picture, but rather place the blame on the individual producer.

Goldwyn also urged the critics—again—to use their influence to stop dualing.

$174,300 Three-Month Net For General Precision

Net profit of General Precision Equipment Corp. for the three months ended Sept. 30, after taxes, is $174,300.

Launch Friendship Train On Coast This Evening

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—Inaugural ceremonies and a parade marking the launching of the Friendship Food Train will be held here tomorrow night. Scheduled to participate are Eddie Cantor, Irving Berlin, Gov. Earl Warren, Charles Luckman, and the Train's national chairman, Harry M. Warner and others from the industry. En route across the country, the Train will pick up food gifts for distribution abroad.

Capone Script Filed With Breen Office

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—A script based on the life of Al Capone was filed here today with the office of Joseph Breen, Production Code Administrator, by Lou Goldberg, independent producer. Goldberg filed the script, reportedly from an original by Westbrook Pegler, just one day after Breen denied knowledge of any plans to make such a film.

'Amber,' 'Narcissus' and 'GWTW' Rapped in Ottawa

OTTAWA, Nov. 6.—"Forever Amber," "Black Narcissus" and "Gone with the Wind" have been condemned by Roman Catholic clergy here as "indecent" and "immoral," reference being made to the placing of the films on the objectionable list of the Catholic Legion of Decency.

"We are continuing to show 'Forever Amber' at the Fox Theatre in Philadelphia and will hold it there for the rest of the booking," Andrew W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, declared here yesterday.

Paramount Dividend

Paramount's board yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock, payable Dec. 19 to stockholders of record on Nov. 28.

Review

"The Fabulous Texan"

(Republic)

"THE FABULOUS TEXAN" strives to attain "epic" proportions; it does, however, show up as a better-than-average Western drama and qualifies for playing-time beyond that accorded routine "horse operas." William Elliott, John Carroll and Catherine McLeod are starred; Albert Dekker and Andy Devine are featured; in support are Patricia Knight, Ruth Donnelly, Johnny Sands, Harry Davenport, Robert H. Barrat, and Douglass Dumbrille. It is engagingly mounted, and was directed with force by Edward Ludwig. Edmund Grainger was associate producer. Lawrence Hazard and Horace McCoy wrote the screenplay, from an original by Hal Long.

At the end of the Civil War, this story shows, Texas was overrun with state troopers who deported themselves much as Hitler's storm troopers did. This irked war veterans Elliott and Carroll, and when his minister father is murdered by the troopers Carroll organizes a band of men to destroy the ruthless machine headed by Dekker. Elliott, who distains this procedure, loves pretty Miss McLeod whose heart belongs to the dashing Carroll. The formula plot runs a long though well-knit course; but before the end Carroll loses popularity when his crusade leads him to murder, banditry and death in a gun duel with Dekker. Meanwhile the savage troopers set fires and steal, but their seige is terminated through the combined efforts of Elliott and Federal men. Elliott, of course, wins Miss McLeod.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 6.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

8 More Suits

(*Continued from page 1*)

as four corporations said to be managed by them, as defendants.

Complaints allege a conspiracy by the defendants on percentage picture returns.

Among the theatres involved, all in Illinois, are: Majestic and La Salle, La Salle; Peru, at Peru; Hub, Rochelle; Co-Ed and Park, Champaign; Apollo and State, Princeton; State, Mendota; Valley, Spring Valley; Princess, Urbana.

Miles G. Seeley of the Chicago firm of Mayer, Meyer, Austrian and Platt, signed the complaints as attorneys for distributors. Sargoy and Stein of New York are counsel for each of the plaintiffs.

$989,954 Projector Sales to Canada

OTTAWA, Nov. 6.—American manufacturers shipped $989,954 worth of projectors to Canada in the first eight months of 1947 and, despite stiffening competition of such imports from other countries, the supplies from the U. S. dominated the market here. Total value of theatrical projectors brought here from all outside sources was $1,030,840. In addition to supplies from the U. S., shipments from other countries included $36,488 from the United Kingdom, and $4,095 from Switzerland.

Other American-made industry products which led the field included $883,437 worth of cameras out of total imports from all sources of $1,119,531.

British Production Increased by 20

London, Nov. 6.—British Board of Trade reports what is considered to be a significant rise in domestic production, citing 88 BOT feature registrations during the first nine months of 1947, an increase of 19 over the 69 registered in the same period in 1946.

The increase is partially attributed to a rise of less-expensive films from promoters rushing to take advantage of any film shortages resulting from the American film embargo, although 40 of the 88 are considered qualitively exportable.

U. K. '50-50' Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

would allow for remittances to the U. S. of 50 per cent of earnings, with the balance to be invested here in projects approved by the government, and that this plan already has been presented to Treasury officials.

Also under study are reports from British official sources in Washington pertaining to the above substitute for the 75 per cent film import tax which resulted in the boycott of Britain by the American industry.

While in his initial approach to the British Treasury Allport undoubtedly covered the principle of the 50-50 proposal, detailed discussions could hardly be held until he receives airmailed instructions from the MPA in Washington covering legal and financial implications of the plan, and these are expected momentarily.

No 'Nationalization'

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment and if it were we should appoint the best man for the job."

Commons has accepted this to mean a definite end of any suggestion that the government will interfere in the industry, particularly with reference to the reported aspirations of Fillipo Del Giudice to become industry "czar" here.

N.Y. ITOA Urges Ample Product

A resolution was passed here yesterday at a meeting of the board of directors of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York urging Hollywood producers to continue an ample flow of product to permit double features.

In a statement issued by Harry Brandt, ITOA president, it was [illegible] that "there was great concern" among subsequent-run exhibitors that the flow of product necessary for double features would be seriously hampered by the fact that major companies are cutting down on the number of pictures produced.

TOA - ASCAP

(*Continued from page 1*)

proceed further with its negotiations with Ascap.

TOA officials were reluctant to state in advance of their report to the board what progress, if any, has been made in negotiations already held. They revealed, however, that "several" meetings have been held with Ascap officials in New York and that they expect the board to authorize them to continue the negotiations. It does not appear that any formal proposal for lower rates has yet been advanced either by the TOA or Ascap, which would indicate that board approval of such a proposal will be sought by the negotiators here.

One TOA official said that "views have been exchanged with Ascap and the Society has shown a willingness to negotiate."

Among other subjects to come before the meetings are: Advanced admissions, 16mm. competition, national legislation, taxes, and distributor-exhibitor relations.

Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, presided at the management committee meeting today. Others in attendance were Charles M. Reagan, James J. Donhue, and Ted O'Shea, New York; Allan Usher and Harold Stevens, Chicago; Jess McBride, Milwaukee; Ben Blotcky, Minneapolis; M. R. Clark and H. Simmons, Dallas; L. W. McClintock, Memphis; Charles Weaver, Oklahoma City; and G. R. Franklin, Indianapolis.

Allied to Test

(*Continued from page 1*)

itself has no idea of how a per-piece licensing plan could be worked, a spokesman admits.

In Washington, Allied general counsel Abram F. Myers admitted that national Allied and individual Allied units have received letters from the Justice Department advising them that the department cannot take any action against Ascap—as requested by exhibitors—until all avenues of the existing Ascap-Government consent decree have been exhausted, including the provision that theatre owners can negotiate with Ascap on a per-piece basis.

Allied leaders make no secret of their opinion on the "unworkability" of the provision, and it is considered likely that the contemplated experiments are designed to prove to the Government that the provision will not work, and that exhibitors must have some other form of relief.

British Labor Asks Aid For Industry

LONDON, Nov. 6.—The Film industry Employees' Council—one of the most influential British film industry labor groups, has called upon the Labor Govermnent to requisition all idle studio space, initiate production, and establish a film bank and other financing aids to independent producers.

The labor organization's demand stems from a sharp dispute between FIEC and the British Film Producers Association which followed announcement by Alfred Shipman that his three Alliance studios will be shut down for possibly three months and that dismissal notices will be given all employes as soon as pictures in production are completed.

Alliance officials declare that only 200 will be dismissed, but the Association of Cine-Technicians, a unit of the FIEC, claims 900 will be affected.

ACT proposes that notices of dismissal be suspended pending discussions between all parties concerned. It urged consideration be given as to how best studios can be kept open in the interests of British production, the interests of the industry generally and the specific interests of the employes directly affected.

If closure of the studios occurs, ACT insists that the employes laid off be absorbed elsewhere in production. Meanwhile, ACT and FIEC allege that the closure is not necessary. Shipman holds it is, and BFPA has stepped into charge the labor organitions with misleading assertions.

Said BFPA: "There is no ground for the suggestion that it is desirable the studios should be carried on in their present condition in the interests of British production and the interest of the industry generally."

The union holds that the BFPA regards British production "as very much of a junior partner to exhibition interests" and that it hopes a "shortage of British product, coupled with the threatened boycott of British screens by American film companies will force the Labor Government to abandon the *ad valorem* duty on foreign films."

1st-Run Wage

(Continued from page 1)

stipulation covering payment of a first-run scale in such cases is part of an employment contract now being negotiated, and that yielding to the union's demand would be tantamount to agreement in advance to an obligation not yet in effect. They also pointed out that the pact under discussion would provide for retroactive payment.

The union declared that a separate oral agreement covering the point was made some time ago. Both sides agree that the amount involved is small, but that the principle is important.

Screen News Names Three New Posts

MONTREAL, Nov. 6. — Associated Screen News has appointed Phil Pitt-Taylor to be in charge of production, Arnold Hague, in charge of newsreels, and Leonard M. Gibbs, to head administration.

Review

"Roses Are Red"

(Sol M. Wurtzel—20th Century-Fox)

OVERLOOKING the fact that there are a few loose ends in plot construction, and the fact that the plot itself is far from novel, this minor scale cat-and-mouse melodrama, from Sol M. Wurtzel, emerges as highly entertaining fare. James Tinling directed with a keen eye for suspense and brightly polished some engaging character vignettes provided in Irving Elman's screenplay. The picture should do nicely in some first-runs, and appears destined for gratifying acceptance in neighborhood houses.

Don Castle stars in the double role of a racket-busting district attorney and a racketeer fresh out of prison. The picture opens with the police hovering over the body of a murdered girl who has a rose clutched in her hand. This incident, however, is more or less pushed into the background as attention is diverted to the district attorney's efforts to break the city's crime machine.

Arch-racketeer Edward Keane kidnaps his crusading enemy and substitutes in his place the former jail bird—his double. However, the racketeers mistakingly kill the bad man double instead of the district attorney who returns to his own desk under the guise of cooperating with the crooks. Keane's gang, of course, is ultimately eliminated as a result. Peggy Knudsen as the reporter sweetheart of the good double, and Patricia Knight as the wife of the bad one, turn in pleasing performances, and so do others in the cast, including Joe Sawyer, Jeff Chandler, Charles McGraw, Charles Lane, Paul Guilfoyle and Doug Fowley.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. December release.

C. L. F.

Foreign Market

(Continued from page 1)

continue with their "sights set on a higher level."

He confirmed that the Motion Picture Association's European manager, F. W. Allport, has already approached the British Government with a proposed alternative to England's 75 per cent which would make 50 per cent of earnings remittable with the balance held in that country for investment in Government-approved projects. Following a report of this from London in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Wednesday, an MPA spokesman voiced a denial.

It was said here yesterday that Allport's assignment was to discuss the suggested alternative on an informal basis, rather than present a cut-and-dried official declaration by the American industry of terms to which it would agree.

On the basis of unofficial estimates the entire world market is expected to yield about $110,000,000, half of that amount coming from the British Isles. While there is said to be no specific program aiming to hit the half-way mark in 1948, the general idea reportedly is to follow the Australian formula in negotiating deals with "sterling" and other countries whose economic positions make certain concessions on the part of the U. S. companies advisable. The Australian deal provides for a free flow of 70 per cent of earnings, with the remainder blocked but usable for local investments.

SOPEG Asks AAA Aid

Following failure by RKO Radio and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, to agree on the choice of a third arbitrator, the union has requested the American Arbitration Association to name the third, the RKO chapter disclosed here yesterday. Request for a 30 per cent or $10 increase has been rejected by home offices.

Philatelists Meet

Cinema Stamp Collectors will meet at the Hotel Astor here on Nov. 12, following a dinner in that hotel. Nonmembers are invited. Bernard Harmer of Harmer, Rooke and Co., stamp specialists, will speak.

FP Tax Study

(Continued from page 1)

reflecting the concern of exhibitors over the prospect of new levies.

The Manitoba Exhibitors Association recently protested to Finance Minister Abbott against keeping the 20 per cent federal amusement levy imposed during the war, and the latter replied that the government had investigated the matter before it was decided to continue the tax.

ITA, Paramount End Product Tilt

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 6.—Ending nearly a year of bickering over prices and concessions demanded for its members, Northwest Independent Theatres Association buying combine, has concluded negotiations with Paramount which will bring that company's product to 23 Twin Cities theatres after nearly a full season's absence.

While Ben Blotcky, Minneapolis Paramount manager, and Caspar Chouinard, ITA buyer, did not disclose details of the agreement, but it is understood rental and other terms are substantially the same as those prevailing when the disagreement over Paramount product started.

ITA has also completed negotiations with 20th-Fox, after a long lay-off.

Theatre Associates, headed by Tom Burke as a buyer, is still holding out on both Paramount and 20th-Fox, although it is reported the group is near an agreement with 20th.

Canada Attendance Up by 11,852,638

Ottawa, Nov. 6.—Film theatre attendance in Canada last year reached an all-time high, with 11,852,638 more paid admissions than in 1945.

Total amount spent at boxoffices, including taxes, was $5,332,030 more last year than in 1945.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
TRADE SHOWINGS
of
SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S presentation of
CARY GRANT
LORETTA YOUNG
DAVID NIVEN
in
"THE BISHOP'S WIFE"
with
MONTY WOOLLEY
JAMES GLEASON • GLADYS COOPER
Directed By HENRY KOSTER
Screen Play by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD *and* LEONARDO BERCOVICI
From the Novel by ROBERT NATHAN
•
NEW YORK
ASTOR THEATRE, B'way at 45th St., New York City
Thursday, November 13, at 10:30 A.M. SHARP
LOS ANGELES
AMBASSADOR HOTEL THEATRE
Thursday, November 13, at 1:30 P.M. SHARP

"THE GANGSTER" RAIDS BROADWAY FOR SMASH HAUL!

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HENRY MORGAN • JOHN IRELAND • ELISHA COOK, Jr. • SHELDON LEONARD

Produced by MAURICE and FRANK KING • Directed by Gordon Wiles • Screenplay by Daniel Fuchs, from his novel "Low Company"

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
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NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 91 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1947 TEN CENTS

Agree to Lift Scophony's Patent Curbs

Consent Decree Being Readied in Video Case

It has been agreed that Scophony television patents, exclusive rights to which are held by Television Productions, owned by Paramount, and General Precision Equipment, would be made available generally under the terms of a pending consent decree settlement of a Government monopoly suit against the latter two companies, and Scophony of America and Scophony of London, according to a Department of Justice source here.

Suit was filed in New York Federal Court in December, 1945, charging a conspiracy by the four defendants and alleging that General Pre-

(*Continued on page 3*)

RKO-UA Deal Called Off

Bogged down over agreement on the manner in which RKO Radio would receive payment, negotiations for release of four RKO features by United Artists have been abandoned, RKO announced here at the weekend, after weeks of discussion.

RKO said it would now proceed with its original plans to distribute these films. Involved were "Out of the

(*Continued on page 3*)

20-Million Korda Budget for 1948

Alexander Korda has a $20,000,000 1948 production program which will represent his most active year as a film producer, his London Film New York office reports.

The new program will be ready to start early in the year and includes Cary Grant in "The Devil's Delight," which Carol Reed will produce and direct; James Mason in Daphne Du Maurier's "The King's General"; Orson Welles in "Cyrano de Bergerac," to be filmed in Italy; Rex Harrison in a comedy by Frederick Lonsdale, another Carol Reed film; "Around the World," from the Jules Verne novel,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Taxes and Gambling Menace NJ Owners

The new New Jersey constitution, approved by the voters at the last election, has opened the way for increased admission taxes and re-adoption of public gambling, Edward Lachman, New Jersey Allied president, declared at the weekend. He added that his organization is preparing to combat expected all-out attempts by the legislature to blanket the state with local admission-taxing power similar to the three per cent grant which went to fourth class cities this year.

With the old constitution's obstacles to public gambling absent in the new document, the entire state could become "the Reno of the East," if forces bent on liberalizing the gambling laws gain their end, according to Lachman. The competition which theatres would face is apparent, he said. Hence, he added, Jersey Allied is ready to wage a bitter fight against the return of bingo-playing and all other similar forms, regardless of limitations.

Meanwhile, Lachman said, the organization has found encouragement, in the rejection by the voters of Ventnor, a fourth-class city, of a three per cent local admission tax, adoption of which had been urged by city fathers.

N. J. Allied's Annual Dinner Is Slated for Nov. 20

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey has invited some 200 from the industry in this area to attend its annual beefsteak dinner to be held Nov. 20 at the Ritz Restaurant, Passaic, N. J., Edward Lachman, Jersey Allied president, reports. Dinner will be preceded by a membership meeting.

Slight Decline in Production Index

Hollywood, Nov. 9.—California Department of Industrial Relations' monthly bulletin discloses that the index of employment in film production declined in September to 93.5 per cent from the August mark of 95. Indexes are based on 1940 as 100 per cent. In September one year ago the index was 122.

Index of payrolls remained virtually unchanged, however, September, 1947, registering 223.7, against August's 221 and September 1946's 222.4. Average weekly earnings in September was $109.86, comparing with $106.82 in August and $81.80 one year ago.

All Tax Cuts Seen Delayed to Jan.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Republican Congressional leaders have apparently abandoned plans for a tax reduction bill at the special session of Congress, but are slating it for the first order of business at the regular session starting in January.

The first tax bite, however, will probably be confined to income tax reduction and a few relatively noncontroversial other tax changes. Any chance for a cut in the admission tax and for corporate tax revision probably will not come up until the second tax bill, now planned by the House Ways and Means Committee for March or April.

'Gentleman's Agreement'

[*20th Century-Fox*]—On Anti-Semitism; Finely Done

ANTI-SEMITISM is the subject of and the "heavy" in this finely produced and acted motion picture. It is not the criminal horror of Hitler's Europe but, rather, the cruelties and discriminations, the insulting attitudes and arrogant prejudices exercised against Jews in these United States with which the picture is concerned.

No need to tell you Darryl Zanuck, the producer, is offering you something different in the way of screen fare. He tells the story frankly, depicting in both incident and dialogue, the pitiful manifestations of false superiority. He names names—Bilbo, Rankin, Gerald L. K. Smith, and places—Darien, New Canaan, and audiences will recognize their counterparts.

This is not to say that "Gentleman's Agreement" is either a documentary or a preachment. It is first and always a motion picture; a good one and one that will be seen and talked about for long. Holding it together is a Gregory Peck-Dorothy McGuire romance, tender and tempestuous, by turn, that will sell tickets and please audiences within this setting as well as it would in any other.

Peck is a magazine writer assigned to do an article on anti-Semitism. A stranger in New York, he hits upon the idea of posing as a Jew in order

(*Continued on page 2*)

Laxity in Code Enforcement Hit By Allied

Johnston Is Urged to Repair Public Relations

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9. — In a strongly-worded attack on recent administration of the Production Code, Allied States general counsel Abram F. Myers has called on Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston "to take some definite action to reassure the public that the situation is not out of control."

Johnston must convince theatregoers, Myers said, that "from now on the code will be administered so as to avoid a repetition of the 'Forever Amber' affair and that hereafter they may patronize the theatres with full confidence that immorality and licentiousness have been banished from the screen. . . ."

At the same time, Myers said, 20th Century-Fox must "do every-

(*Continued on page 6*)

SIMPP-UK Deal Sought

Strenuously opposed to any substantial freeze of money earned in England, Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will seek a compromise with the British on behalf of independent producers, separate from an agreement sought by major companies, an associate of Nelson's disclosed here on Friday. Nelson was

(*Continued on page 3*)

Fox Sales Meeting To Open Here Today

Twentieth Century-Fox's 1948 sales policies and forthcoming product will be discussed at a three-day conference of division managers, which starts here today at the home office. Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, will preside. Sales plans for "Captain from Castile" also will be announced.

In addition to Smith, speakers at the session will include: Sypros P. Skouras, president; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager; Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director; Clarence Hill, manager of branch

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

NORTON V. RITCHEY, president of Monogram International, left New York over the weekend for Hollywood.

•

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion chief, has returned to New York from Charleston, W. Va.

•

M. L. Simons, assistant to **Henderson M. Richey**, M-G-M exhibitor and public relations head, returned today from Charleston, W. Va.

•

Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the international division of Motion Picture Association, leaves today for a month's visit in Europe.

•

Cecil B. DeMille returned to Hollywood yesterday following completion of his 18,000-mile tour on behalf of "Unconquered."

•

Edward L. Walton, Republic assistant general sales manager, left here yesterday on a visit to Midwest exchanges.

•

Fred Raphael, music exploitation director of Walt Disney Studios, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

Edward Morey, vice-president of Allied Artists and Monogram, left here for the Coast on Saturday.

Schwalberg Names Five More Salesmen

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle Lion, has appointed five more salesmen, as follows:

Harry William Tyson, in Harrisburg, and Theodore Scheinberg, New Jersey, both to operate out of the Philadelphia exchange; Paul Arthur Hull, Seattle; Joseph Friedman, Chicago, and William T. Grant, Los Angeles.

Named RCA Distributor

Kirkpatrick, Inc., has been appointed RCA educational distributor for Oklahoma, Arkansas and West Tennessee, by William H. Knowles, general manager of the educational sales department of RCA Victor. The distributor will have regional offices in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Little Rock and Memphis.

Powell on His Own

PITTSFIELD, MASS., Nov. 9.—William T. Powell has been granted a leave as district manager for Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., and manager of the Capitol Theatre, to devote full time to his newly-formed Berkshire Enterprises, Inc., which plans distribution of records as theatre premiums. Taking over in Powell's absence will be Horace Decelles, assistant manager for many years.

'Gentleman's Agreement'

(*Continued from page 1*)

to obtain his facts through personal experience. His device is known to Miss McGuire, cast as the niece of Peck's publisher, the latter played by Albert Dekker. She believes herself to be wholeheartedly opposed to prejudice but Peck begins to have misgivings when she reveals to members of his family, after they have become engaged, that he is not a Jew.

The breaking point comes when Miss McGuire declines to make available an unused cottage she owns in a "restricted" community to Peck's lifelong Jewish friend, played by John Garfield, on the latter's return from overseas service, although Garfield is unable to obtain living accommodations elsewhere and, consequently, it means he must forego a good position and a reunion with his family.

Miss McGuire discusses her shattered romance with Garfield and asks him if he believes she is anti-Semitic. He reassures her on that score but points out that much of hers and Peck's misunderstandings had arisen because of her passive attitude toward prejudice. Her first act is to offer her cottage to Garfield and it leads to her reconciliation with Peck.

ALWAYS to the fore is the living experience of Peck as a Jew gathering material for his article. There are the mean innuendos about race, the name-calling even among children, the epithets, the groundless accusations, some revolting, some embarrassing. But none of it is unreal, none far-fetched. A "gentleman's agreement," an understanding among property owners of a "restricted" community not to sell to a Jew when they dispose of their property, is the picture's explanation of its title.

Outstanding performances are to be credited to Peck, Miss McGuire, Garfield and Anne Revere, the latter as Peck's mother. A large supporting cast is uniformly good, particularly Celeste Holm, as a successful career woman with a hungry heart to whom Peck turns momentarily when his romance with Miss McGuire takes the wrong turn; Dean Stockwell, as Peck's motherless son; Dekker as the publisher; Jane Wyatt as Miss McGuire's sister; June Havoc as a Jewess with anti-Semitic tendencies, and Sam Jaffe as a Jewish scientist.

This wealth of talent, and more that must go unmentioned here, has been expertly directed by Elia Kazan. Moss Hart provided the distinguished screen play, based on the novel by Laura Z. Hobson.

The huge audience that read the best-selling novel will be sure to be attracted by the picture. It is a safe bet that they will find it better than the original. The great majority of critics will applaud it and will increase its audience. It is just as certain to be disliked by some and to be avoided by others. If that were not so, the book need never have been written nor the picture produced. By and large, however, "Gentleman's Agreement" should be a money picture as well as a production milestone.

Running time, 118 minutes. General classification. Release, not set.

SHERWIN KANE

Settle Circuit Percentage Suit

CHICAGO, Nov. 9.—The Paramount percentage suit against Anderson Theatres, Morris, Ill., has been settled out of court, it was disclosed here by Miles Seeley, attorney for the plaintiff. Only remaining action against the circuit is the percentage suit filed by Columbia.

Campbell in New Post

MONTREAL, Nov. 9. — James W. Campbell has been appointed production manager of Associated Screen News, by B. E. Norrish, president and managing director. J. M. Alexander, who formerly held the post, has been granted a leave of absence for health reasons, and after an extended vacation will return to special duties in motion picture planning and production.

Two File for Video

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Two additional applications for new commercial television stations have been filed with the Federal Communications Commission. The Yankee Network, which was recently granted one for a station in Boston, has filed for another station in Hartford, on channel No. 8.

Empire Coil, of Parma, O., has filed an application for a station there.

Four Theatres Sold

DENVER, Nov. 9. — Three theatre deals in this territory, involving four theatres, involve the sale of the Hatch and Drive In, at Hatch, N. M., by Mrs. S. E. Allen, to Marlin Butler; Horn and Morgan sold the Star, at Hay Springs, Neb., to Esmond Hardin, and Hans Peterson sold the Delmar, at Morrill, Neb., to Palmer Allen.

$800,000 Goldberg House

OMAHA, Nov. 9. — Circuit owner R. D. Goldberg plans to build a theatre here seating 1,800 and costing $800,000, on a site about a mile from the business district. Goldberg said he would go to Los Angeles shortly after Jan. 1 to confer with designers.

Handling SRO, E-L Films

CLEVELAND, Nov. 9. — Film Distributors of Cleveland, new firm headed by Louis Gross and E. S. Johnson of Central Shipping Terminal, is now handling distribution here of Eagle Lion, SRO and Film Classics product.

Cecil Humphreys, 64

Cecil Humphreys, English actor who appeared in "Wuthering Heights" and other American and British films, died here Friday at the age of 64.

Newsreel Parade

STANISLAS Mikolajczyk in London is featured in all current newsreels. Other items include ceremonies honoring the memory of Will Rogers, miniature plane fliers in Tokyo, and varied sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 21—Piper-cub fliers in Japan. Storm pounds East Coast. Entire atomic city moved. Stanislas Mikolajczyk tells why he fled from Poland. Fashions, sports.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 219—Report from India. Escaped Polish leader tells his story. "Flivver-plane" in Tokyo. Co-ed fashions. Olympic ice team preview.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 22—Polish peasant leader safe in England. Will Rogers honored. Royal wedding cheers Britain. Kentucky says farewell to Man of War. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 89—Army fliers circling globe in miniature plane. Greeks honor war dead in Athens. Maharajah takes part in India festival. Polish anti-Red leader speaks in London. Olympic figure skaters train at Rockefeller Plaza. Sports.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 24—Southwest honors Will Rogers. New department stores open in Massachusetts and Texas. Stanislas Mikolajczyk is interviewed. Export water to Mexico. Camera shows flowers' growth. Dirt-track thriller.

Pioneers to Set Up Industry Museum

Establishment of a permanent motion picture museum to contain memorabilia of the entire industry from the earliest days to the present, has been decided upon by the executive committee of the Picture Pioneers, Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia and Pioneers president, has announced.

Details of the museum, first of its kind to be created by an organization within the industry, will be announced by Adolph Zukor, at the Pioneers' eighth annual dinner, to be held here on Nov. 19 at the Plaza Hotel.

While no location has yet been selected, Cohn said, the museum will be open to the public.

Censor Fight Continues

MEMPHIS, Nov. 9.—A petition asking the Chancery Court here to dismiss a writ of certiorari filed by United Artists and Hal Roach, Inc. against the local censor board has been filed by city attorney Frank Gianotti, Jr. The suit charged that the censors had no constitutional right to ban the Roach comedy, "Curley."

Fight 'Cross' Banning

DETROIT, Nov. 9.—City officials, the clergy and leaders of civic organizations will be appealed to by Albert Dezel in his fight against the censors' banning of "The Burning Cross." Meanwhile, the picture's producer, Walter Colmes, has asked Michigan's governor to intercede.

Armistice Closings

All home offices here will close at one P.M. tomorrow, except RKO Radio, which will be closed all day, in observance of Armistice Day of World War I. Republic will be open all day.

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Kelly Here Today on Financing for UA

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of United Artists, is due in New York tomorrow from here to negotiate financing arrangements for the company, principally for "second money" for producers releasing through UA. Gradwell L. Sears, UA president, left for the home office at the weekend.

Financing has been discussed here during the past week by Kelly, Sears and George Bagnall, production chief, and co-owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin.

UA-RKO Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

Past," to be released in December to head the annual Ned E. Depinet sales drive, and "Return of the Badmen," "Indian Summer" and "Station West."

20th-Fox Sales Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

operations; Ray Moon, Northeastern division manager, and Paul Terry, Eric Haight and Edmund Reek.

Other home office executives who will be on hand are W. C. Michel, Joseph Moskowitz, Donald Henderson, W. J. Eadie, Otto Koegel and Murray Silverstone.

RKO Promotes Cohen

Harry Cohen, former salesman at RKO Radio's Montreal exchange, has been named manager of the company's St. John branch, succeeding H. H. McArthur.

Form Mexican Unit

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 9.—Organization has been completed here of a new production company, Cinematografico Intercontinental, S.A., with Carlos Santacruz Carral as president, and Mario Fernandez manager.

Two Exchanges Opened

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 9. — Favorite Films will open exchanges at Seattle and Portland, under supervision of local representatives Harry Price and Barney Levy.

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Managers Run FWC Struck Theatres

Los Angeles, Nov. 9.—With managers, assistant managers and others operating the machines under temporary city licenses, Fox West Coast has reopened the 12 houses shut down by a walkout of IATSE projectionists. The strike occurred last week when the union contended that the projectionists are entitled to a first-run wage scale because the 12 second-run theatres had been converted to first-runs for "Forever Amber." Operations were resumed by the managers and assistants following an erroneous report that FWC and the union had reached an agreement for return of the projectionists.

SIMPP-UK Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

in Atlantic City and could not be reached for confirmation over the weekend.

In the event Britain permits remittance of no more than 50 per cent of earnings, part of a formula now before the British Treasury, Nelson reportedly will "plead the cause of the independents," citing "severe hardships which ultimately would lead to their ruination," it was said, with the view in mind of obtaining more lenient terms for independents.

Nelson will not take action pending the outcome of negotiations by the Motion Picture Association and British officials unless it becomes definitely established beforehand that a substantial blocking of funds will result. He will argue the point that the large companies are in a far better position to utilize unremittable money in production and other projects in England.

It was said here he has yet to draft a proposal for a "more equitable" alternative to Britain's 75 per cent import tax for the independents, and has no immediate plans to visit London.

Study Labor Bill

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 9. — Study of the vetoed Van Aken labor control bill, which would prohibit "featherbedding" tactics in theatres, has been started by the Ohio labor study commission, which has until Jan. 1 to report a new bill to the Ohio legislature. The commission is comparing the Van Aken bill, vetoed by Gov. Herbert, with comparable sections of the Taft-Hartley law and labor legislation of other states.

Promote Rank Films

TORONTO, Nov. 9.—Under the sponsorship of J. Arthur Rank, branches of the Educational and Religious Film Aid Society are being organized in various cities of Canada for the presentation of 16mm. films being produced by the Rank Organization in England.

Another to Oxford

American distribution rights to the French film "Fric-Frac" have been acquired by Oxford Films, it was announced by Edward L. Kinglsey, Oxford vice-president.

TOA Board Appoints Special Committees

CHICAGO, Nov. 9.—The national board of the Theatre Owners of America at its first meeting here set up standing committees to bring in reports on problems confronting exhibitors.

Ascap fees, 16mm. competition, advanced admissions and national legislation are matters that will be studied by individual committees charged to propose action at the earliest possible time.

Correction

Due to an error in composition, names of Paramount sales executives who met in Chicago last week were reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Friday, Nov. 7, as having been in attendance at a meeting of the Theatre Owners of America management committee in that city last Thursday. The two meetings were separate and the Paramount sales officials did not attend the TOA committee meeting.

Korda Budget

(*Continued from page 1*)

in Technicolor, with Ralph Richardson as Phineas Fogg; Robert Donat in Terence Rattigan's "The Winslow Boy"; Korda's new stars Eileen Herlie and Kieron Moore in Jean Cocteau's "The Eagle Has Two Heads"; "The Promotion of the Admiral," a C. S. Forrester story, starring Ralph Richardson, a Michael Powell-Emeric Pressburger production.

New production units joining Korda in 1948 include The Archers, composed of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger; the team of Anthony Asquith, Anatole De Grunwald and Rattigan; and Carol Reed, Leslie Arliss, Anthony Kimmins and Herbert Wilcox, all of whom will make one and probably second pictures during the year.

Korda has completed and has ready for release Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," in Technicolor, starring Paulette Goddard; Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina," starring Vivien Leigh, directed by Julien Duvivier; "Mine Own Executioner," starring Burgess Meredith, and "Man About the House," with Kieron Moore.

Currently shooting at his Shepperton and Iseleworth studios in England are "Bonnie Prince Charlie," in Technicolor, by Clemence Dane, starring David Niven, and "The Lost Illusion," a Graham Greene story, starring Ralph Richardson and Michele Morgan, directed and produced by Carol Reed.

Ottawa Theatres to Dim to Save Power

Ottawa, Nov. 9.—Faced with "a serious power shortage," this city's outdoor lighting, including theatre marquees, will be suspended tomorrow. S. W. Canniff, general manager of the Ottawa Hydro-Electric Power Commission, indicated that theatre front lights would be affected by the conservation measure. Street lighting would not be included.

W. Va. Managers Elect President

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Nov. 9.—Wendell Holt was elected president of the West Virginia Theatre Managers Association, an Allied unit, at its convention held here this weekend.

The group will send a delegation to the Allied national convention to be held in December at Milwaukee.

Scophony Patents

(*Continued from page 1*)

cision and Television Productions failed to exert substantial effort to develop Scophony patents and prevented the American Scophony company from granting any licenses under the patents to others in the motion picture and electronics fields.

The Department of Justice asserted at the time that because of the alleged restraint, commercial development in this country of an important advance in television was "unnecessarily delayed."

Another source said here at the weekend that negotiations on a consent decree are continuing although a stumbling block has developed in financial difficulties involving stock transfers. General Precision owns two-thirds of the class B stock of Scophony of America and Television Productions holds the other third, in addition to holding exclusive licenses for the use of Scophony patents.

Scophony, Ltd., won a dismissal in Federal Court here on the grounds that it was not directly involved in the case and an appeal was taken by the Government to the U. S. Supreme Court where it is now pending.

IT'S TERRIFIC AND TRUE!
EAGLE LION FILMS presents
T-MEN
IT'S LOADED . . . FOR THRILLS . . . FOR BOX OFFICE!

"THE PICTURE OF THE WEE

And so it is . . . full of that heart-pull that made the movies the world's greatest entertainment!

Tenderness . . . honesty . . . sincerity . . . living . . . loving . . . laughter . . . tears and happiness with inspired performances by inspired cast!

DRIFTWOOD

ays **Jimmie Fidler**

in his coast-to-coast ABC radio broadcast!

starring

UTH WARRICK • WALTER BRENNAN

EAN JAGGER • CHARLOTTE GREENWOOD

d the Delightful New Child Star NATALIE WOOD

th JEROME COWAN • H. B. WARNER • MARGARET HAMILTON

riginal Screen Play by Mary Loos and Richard Sale • Directed by ALLAN DWAN

A
REPUBLIC
PICTURE

Reviews

"In Self Defense"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 9

NEVER mind the names (but make way for Don Castle, you marquee stars) and don't worry because it only runs 66 minutes, because this Jack Wrather production of a *Good Housekeeping* serial by Leon Ware is as solid a piece of melodramatic merchandise as has come along in many moons. Not fancy, not budgeted within an inch of non-profit usefulness, but strong, direct and essentially creditable stuff. Do not discount it because it is short.

Don Castle, the first outright challenge to Clark Gable in all these years, is seen as a sailor who, discharged from the Navy and jobless, hires out to a gangster to bump off a newspaper publisher for $10,000. He ships on the publisher's yacht as electrician to do the job, but is delayed long enough, in one way and another, to win the publisher's confidence to such an extent that he appoints him his bodyguard, assigning him principally to keep a guest who is in love with his wife, and after his money, from killing him.

The appointment does not deter him from his own killing assignment, but when he finally gets his gun aimed at his victim he finds himself unable to pull the trigger. Observing this, the publisher forgives him, as does the publisher's secretary, who has fallen in love with him, and vice versa. There are still a pair of the racketeer's gunners to be dealt with when the young man goes ashore, and the manner of dealing with them gives the story a smash ending. Others in the cast include Audrey Long, Samuel S. Hinds, Gloria Holden, Peggy Knudsen, John Miljan, Walter Sande and Cy Kendall. Jack Bernhard directed, with complete understanding, from a script by Richard Wormser and Francis Rosenwald. James C. Jordan was associate producer.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

William R. Weaver

"On the Old Spanish Trail"

(*Republic*)

ROY ROGERS, Tito Guizar and Jane Frazee, among others, are engaged alternately in song, pursuits and battles in a Western with a good share of box-office values. The show blazes no new trails in the way of story material, but it stands up well enough, and there's a cast which does right well by the many musical interludes, as well as the fighting and the fussing. The tinting job (Trucolor) is particularly helpful.

Bob Nolan and his Sons of the Pioneers, Andy Devine, Estrelita Rodriguez, Charles McGraw and others support the principals in a yarn which centers around a carnival show with a heavy mortgage and some holdups which baffle the sheriff. Edward J. White produced and William Whitney directed. Sloan Nibley did the screenplay, from an original by Gerald Geraghty.

Running time 75 minutes. General audience clasification. Release date, Oct. 15.

Gene Arneel

Code Laxity

(*Continued from page 1*)

thing in its power to relieve the exhibitors of the predicament into which the production and release of 'Amber' has placed them."

The Allied official used the current Philadelphia controversy over "Forever Amber" as the taking-off point for his blast at the code administration, but assured exhibitors that "the reaction to 'Amber' is not a sporadic or transient thing. The cauldron has been seething and now it has boiled over."

Myers said that "those of us who lived through the outburst against moral laxity on the screen in the early 1930's and witnessed the skillful job done by Will Hays in putting out that fire, cannot help wondering why the situation was again allowed to get out of hand."

He declared that trouble has been brewing for the last year or so, starting with Eric Johnston's relaxation on the ban on narcotics on the screen. Citing steadily increasing protests in the press recently, Myers asked "How could the master minds of the industry, in view of their former grim experience, have permitted this to happen? Have they not yet learned that of the countless millions of dollars earned by motion pictures only an infinitesimal part was derived from salacious pictures? Why risk so much for so little?"

Myers admitted that Allied cannot "offer advice" to MPA, since it is not a member, but said it could "express the hope that Eric Johnston will spare a little time from his defense of Hollywood and his negotiations with the United Kingdom to survey the producers' public relations in the United States."

The Allied statement included the usual attack on increased admission prices, stating that "if some exhibitors appear to view 20th Century-Fox's present difficulties with 'Amber' with some composure, it is because that company is demanding exorbitant terms for it, including increased admission prices to the public."

"The industry is getting a bad press," Myers concluded, "from 'Amber,' from the Hollywood probe (despite criticisms of the committee's procedure), and from advanced admission price pictures. Protecting and maintaining the industry's good will and sound public relations is primarily the responsibility and duty of Johnston's association. Johnston has been given a wonderful opportunity to take a strong stand in all these matters and assure the public that all is right with the motion picture picture industry. We know his predecessor would have capitalized on this. What will Johnston do?"

New Mesal Ad Account

Mesal Organization, agency headed by Sally Perle, will direct advertising-publicity of Masterpiece Productions.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
TRADE SHOWINGS
of
"OUT OF THE PAST"

ALBANY Fox Proj. Rm., 1052 Broadway	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
ATLANTA RKO Proj. Rm., 195 Luckie St. N.W.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
BOSTON RKO Proj. Rm., 122 Arlington St.	Fri.	11/14	2:30 P.M.
BUFFALO Fox Proj. Rm., 290 Franklin St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
CHARLOTTE Fox Proj. Rm., 308 So. Church St.	Thurs.	11/13	10:30 A.M.
CHICAGO RKO Proj. Rm., 1300 So. Wabash Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
CINCINNATI RKO Proj. Rm., 12 E. 6th St.	Thurs.	11/13	10:30 A.M.
CLEVELAND Fox Proj. Rm., 2219 Payne Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
DALLAS Paramount Proj. Rm., 412 S. Harwood St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
DENVER Paramount Proj. Rm., 2100 Stout St.	Thurs.	11/13	3.00 P.M.
DES MOINES Fox Proj. Rm., 1300 High St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
DETROIT Blumenthal Proj. Rm., 2310 Cass Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS Paramount Proj. Rm., 116 W. Michigan St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:15 P.M.
KANSAS CITY Paramount Proj. Rm., 1802 Wyandote	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES Fox Proj. Rm., 2019 S. Vermont Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	11:30 A.M.
MEMPHIS Fox Proj. Rm., 151 Vance Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE Warner Proj. Rm., 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS Fox Proj. Rm., 1015 Currie Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
NEW HAVEN Fox Proj. Rm., 40 Whiting St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS Fox Proj. Rm., 200 S. Liberty St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
NEW YORK RKO Proj. Rm., 630 Ninth Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	3:30 P.M.
OKLAHOMA CITY Fox Proj. Rm., 10 N. Lee St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
OMAHA Fox Proj. Rm., 1502 Davenport St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA RKO Proj. Rm., 250 N. 13 St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
PITTSBURGH RKO Proj. Rm., 1809-13 Blvd. of Allies	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
PORTLAND Star Preview Rm., 925 N.W. 19 St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS S'Renco Proj. Rm., 3143 Olive St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY Fox Proj. Rm., 216 E. 1st South St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
SAN FRANCISCO RKO Proj. Rm., 251 Hyde St.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
SEATTLE B. F. Shearer Co., 2318 2nd Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS Hollywood Theatre, 212 No. Phillips Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	9:00 A.M.
WASHINGTON Fox Proj. Rm., 932 New Jersey Ave.	Thurs.	11/13	2:30 P.M.

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MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 92 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

Music Tax Cut May Come; T.O.A. to Act

Organization Charts Its Course on Other Matters

Empowered to act by the Theatre Owners of America board in Chicago late last week, a special committee of the organization will take up negotiations with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to obtain a substantial revision of the music society's new rate structure within the next two weeks. It will act with the advance knowledge that Ascap is willing to yield some ground.

Outcome of the negotiations will be reported to the board by mail, accompanied by recommendation to approve or reject, probably by return mail, the best terms offered by Ascap.

Preliminary discussions with Ascap

(*Continued on page* 3)

Para. Disposes of 135,000 Shares

Paramount last month issued from its treasury 135,000 shares of the stock it has been accumulating under the stock purchasing program announced by president Barney Balaban last November.

Company spokesmen declined to identify the use to which the stock has been put other than to say a "direct exchange" was involved and they denied flatly that the shares had been used to purchase partners' theatre interests.

It has been understood that Paramount was engaged in re-acquiring

(*Continued on page* 4)

20th-Fox Will Test All Reissues: Smith

Policy for the determination of which pictures will be re-released by 20th Century-Fox during 1948 was reported here yesterday by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, at the opening of a division sales managers' conference, to run three days.

Participating with Smith in arrangements of the conference is W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager.

"Before we determine on the national re-issuance of a picture we will

(*Continued on page* 3)

New 1st-Runs In NY Soar

Box-office strength marks the New York first-run scene this week, with five new shows bolstering income at as many spots where previous tenants had started to lag.

Biggest gross in the Globe's 15 years is claimed for "Body and Soul," which reportedly drew a colossal $29,300 over Saturday and Sunday. Management says it anticipates in excess of $60,000 for the week at the 1,500-seat theatre. Top admission for the film has been raised from $1.50 on weekends and $1.40 during the week to $1.80 on all seven days. Also, there is one extra show daily, bringing the total to nine during the week, 11 on Saturday, and 8 on Sunday.

"Cass Timberlane," with a stage show at the Music Hall was tremen-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Food Train Plans In Operation Here

The Friendship Food Train, now en route from Hollywood to New York and other points East on its aid-for-Europe mission, will be greeted with gifts of food donated by New York City school children under plans set up by Mayor William O'Dwyer and representatives of the film industry, the railroads and city department

(*Continued on page* 3)

Rank, Korda Ask UK Tax Compromise

London, Nov. 10.—J. Arthur Rank, president of the British Film Producers Association, and Sir Alexander Korda were members of a special committee who today conferred with Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, in regard to the British tax on American films.

The committee reportedly made a strong plea for a reduction of the tax on the grounds that a wide circulation of British pictures in the United States is necessary, and that some compromise must be found to assure the support of American interests.

FJP Unit Chairmen Launch Fund Drive

Federation of Jewish Philanthropies' amusement division, here, yesterday launched its fund-raising campaign with a series of meetings. Goal is $15,000,000 for welfare and community work in the Metropolitan area.

Following a morning conference between William German, laboratory committee chairman, and Si Fabian,

(*Continued on page* 3)

UA Units in Full-Scale Operation in 3 Months

Technicolor Profits More Than Double

Hollywood, Nov. 10.—Technicolor's third-quarter and three-quarter profits for the respective periods ending last Sept. 30 were both much more than double similar 1946 periods. Net for the quarter, before taxes, is estimated to be $692,100, equivalent to 76 cents a share, compared to $286,800, equivalent to 31 cents a share for the corresponding quarter of 1946, according to Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president.

Net before taxes for the nine months is estimated to be $1,932,000, or $2.11 per share, compared to $919,700, or $1.01 per share for the corresponding nine months of 1946.

Majority of independent producers releasing through United Artists will have swung back into full-scale operation in three months, Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of UA, said here yesterday, with both he and president Gradwell L. Sears emphasizing the sound position of the company both product-wise and from the standpoint of economic stability. UA has a backlog of 23 features valued at about $27,000,000. Sears maintained the company is entirely free of indebtedness.

Acknowledging that setbacks in foreign markets have upset the company's plans to some extent, he indicated he will endeavor to establish a $5,000,000 revolving fund with which to participate in production when the picture of the world market is clarified.

Kelly reported J. Arthur Rank's Gaumont-British circuit is now booking UA product after Rank had refused to take the films for eight

(*Continued on page* 4)

High Court Bars Jackson Park Appeal

Limits Runs, Affects Chicago Release System

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10. — The Supreme Court today refused to hear the appeal by defendant distributors and affiliated circuits in the Jackson Park Theatre case, Chicago.

The refusal invokes a complete change in the "Chicago system" of release. According to Miles Seeley, attorney for the film distributors and circuit operators, the new procedure involving run and clearance of motion pictures in the Chicago area will be: The major Loop theatres will not be permitted to play a picture more than two weeks unless they release a print to other theatres so as not to form a backlog; the three week period between the end of first loop run and outlying release is discontinued; theatre chains are enjoined from fixing

(*Continued on page* 4)

Goldman Withdraws 'Outlaw' in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 10.—William Goldman, owner of the Erlanger Theatre, tonight withdrew "The Outlaw" from his house as a result of a protest and threat of a one-year boycott by Catholics from Cardinal Dougherty. In a letter to the clergyman, Goldman declared:

"In deference to your position, representing as it does those in the community of the Catholic faith, we are today withdrawing the picture. . . . Had your views been called to our attention prior to initial exhibition of

(*Continued on page* 4)

Contempt Citations Up to Rep. Martin

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—House Speaker Martin today formally heard protests against his approving the Un-American Activities Committee's contempt citation of 10 Hollywood writers, directors, and producers for refusing to answer questions on their political beliefs.

Representatives of the National Lawyers Guild told the Speaker in a private hearing in his office this morn-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Personal Mention

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner's director of advertising and publicity, will return here today from Pittsburgh.

•

FRANK BUSH, assistant chief of Technicolor's camera department, will arrive here today from London, with MRS. BUSH. They will leave for the Coast on Thursday.

•

FRED SCHANBERGER, JR., of Keith's Theatre in Baltimore and chief barker of the Variety Club, Baltimore Tent, will enter Bon Secours hospital this week for surgery.

•

MILT SOMBERG of Warner's home office publicity department was married last week to the former MISS MARILYN ROTHENBERG.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will leave here today for the Coast.

•

PHIL LAUFER, publicist, and MRS. LAUFER became parents of a girl, born last Saturday night on the eve of the couple's sixth wedding anniversary.

•

JOHN B. MCCULLOUGH, director of conservation of the Motion Picture Association, is in Charlotte from New York.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio foreign distribution head, returned to the home office yesterday from Mexico.

•

HAL ROACH arrived in New York Sunday with MRS. ROACH, flying his own plane from Hollywood.

•

MILTON KUSELL, SRO vice-president, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

HARRY COHN, president of Columbia, is expected here next week from the Coast.

IATSE Head to Act In FWC Dispute

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Intervention by IATSE president Richard J. Walsh, now in New York, in the dispute between the projectionist's local here and Fox West Coast over the scale paid in second-run theatres while in use for first runs, is expected tomorrow or Wednesday.

With 12 houses already involved and with "Forever Amber" scheduled to open this week in five more FWC theatres, a union spokesman said there was no intention at present to spread the walk out.

Union Trial Begins

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Court action filed a month ago by six construction companies to compel the carpenter's union to perform pre-strike commitments on permanent studio building went to trial here today in Superior Court.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALLIED STATES through its chairman and general counsel, Abram Myers, last week reviewed with justifiable concern the present state of the industry's public relations, finding them in need of immediate attention and repair.

Certainly, the general impression left with the public by the recent House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings was unfavorable and remains so. J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the committee, now asserts that the hearings will be resumed on Dec. 1 and that many more alleged Hollywood communists will be identified.

That might well mean that even greater injury may be done the industry when the hearings resume than it experienced during the initial sessions.

Current protests against moral laxity in the contents of several highly exploited pictures are, as the Allied States leader pointed out, still another problem in industry public relations and call for top-level attention.

Myers expressed the hope that Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, might spare some time from his important fiscal negotiations with the British Treasury to reassure the public that the moral content of motion pictures still is a matter of concern to responsible industry leadership.

•

None will argue that the situation existing at home requires that the British negotiations be halted even for the moment. But, surely, the import of public relations here is such that they, too, cannot be ignored when the first signs of deterioration appear.

It is only reasonable to believe that Johnston and his advisers are aware of the unfavorable consequences of the Thomas committee hearings, just as they are of the necessity for salvaging the most that is possible from the depleted foreign markets. It may be assumed that efforts are being directed now toward realizing, if it is possible to do so, a better result for the industry from the next sessions of the Un-American Activities committee than from the first.

The industry's public relations are deserving of constant attention. Because they are directly related to the box-office they are of vital concern always, but with the box-office itself beset with other ailments at home and abroad, as it is now, there should be no hesitancy in repairing damaged public relations whenever and wherever the damage occurs.

Allied and Myers are to be commended for calling attention to this.

• •

While on the subject, it was reported to this department recently that one of the industry groups charged with some responsibility for maintaining good public relations for the industry met recently and devoted its time and energies to debate on the momentous question of whether or not publicity departments should this year discontinue their practice of dispensing Christmas gifts. While really vital public relations problems confront the industry, it is bound to be dismaying to many to learn that such a subject should have been permitted to take precedence over any of them or even be confused as one of them.

It would appear to give substance to the Allied States' contention that the industry's public relations are in need of Eric Johnson's direct attentions.

• •

The California Bureau of Labor Statistics reported recently that the studio employment index for September was down 29 points, from September of 1946; while weekly earnings were up an average of $28 and average work hours per week were 2.2 less in the same period.

Hollywood has been reporting that one of its early contributions to the industry economy program has been the shortening of shooting schedules. The statistics appear to prove it right.

They can turn out in a 39.1-hour week now what it required 41.3 hours a week to do a year ago, and with fewer workers. Only gimmick is, the average worker gets $28 more per week.

• •

Whatever became of those industry sayings, "The film business is the last to feel a depression and the first to recover," and, "There's nothing wrong with the industry good pictures can't cure"?

Haven't heard them quoted for quite a spell.

Dezel Ads to Perle

Sally Perle, through her advertising agency, the Mesal Organization, here, has been retained by Albert Dezel Productions, Detroit, to handle advertising and publicity on the Dezel feature combination "Return of Kit Carson" and "Return of the Mohicans," soon to be released.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

14th WEEK! SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING!
RED SKELTON
IN M-G-M's
'MERTON OF THE MOVIES'
IN PERSON
THE VAGABONDS
EDITH FELLOWS
Extra!
MARY RAYE & NALDI
ALAN CARNEY

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. and J. Arthur Rank present
JOHN MILLS • MARTHA SCOTT • PATRICIA ROC
in JAMES HILTON'S
So Well Remembered

PARAMOUNT'S
"VARIETY GIRL"
starring 40 TOP STARS!
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK
And His Orchestra
AL BERNIE
TIP, TAP & TOE
MEL TORMÉ
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Launch FJP Drive

(*Continued from page 1*)

amusement division head, a luncheon-meeting of corporate chairmen was held at the Hotel Astor, with Fabian presiding. Plans were weighed for home office collections to help meet the $325,000 quota set for the entertainment business.

In the afternoon, Fabian met with Marcus Heiman, chairman of the legitimate theatres committee.

Test Reissues

(*Continued from page 1*)

seek the advice of our customers. But, before we order prints for national release we will test them by playing a number of theatres," to determine their actual value.

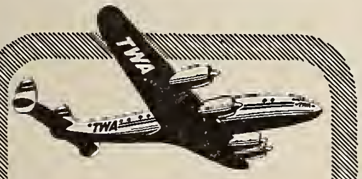
"In the event the reaction is not favorable we shall designate other pictures and continue efforts until we develop a satisfactory combination." He added that the reissues will be given special handling under supervision of Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity.

"Captain from Castile" will be sold on a 50-50 basis at advanced admissions, Smith reported. The policy will be identical to that pursued on "Forever Amber." It will be shown day and date in 250 theatres, with openings scheduled for Christmas Day. The New York opening will be at the Rivoli.

Monogram Meetings Will Start Today

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Monogram and Allied Artists executives and franchise holders arrived here today to attend a meeting of franchise holders tomorrow, and a board and stockholders' sessions Wednesday.

Those who will confer at the studio with president Steve Broidy, W. Ray Johnston, chairman of the board, George D. Burrows, executive vice-president, and Scott R. Dunlap, executive assistant, include Edward Morey, New York; Herman Rifkin, Boston; Howard Stubbins, Los Angeles; Charles Trampe, Milwaukee; William Hurlbut, Detroit; Arthur C. Bromberg, Atlanta; Norton V. Ritchey, New York.



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Arrange Talent for "Night of Stars"

The "Night of Stars" at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 17 will utilize "every star of stage, screen and radio in town on the day of the performance," the committee said. Proceeds will go to the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

The show is under the direction of Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre here, supported by honorary chairmen Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Albert Warner, and co-chairmen Marvin H. Schenck, Louis K. Sidney, Ed Sullivan and Arthur Knorr.

Food Train Plans

(*Continued from page 1*)

chiefs. Meanwhile, arrangements are being made for donations by other sources here in the national commodities collection campaign headed by Harry M. Warner, Warner Brothers president.

Mort Blumenstock, Joseph Lilly, Charles Schlaifer, Fred Schwartz, Sol Schwartz, Harry Brandt and others here make up the industry group which has been working with O'Dwyer and other city officials including Grover Whalen, Postmaster Albert Goldman and City Market Commissioner Schultz. The Mayor has pledged to mobilize all of the facilities of the city in behalf of the Train, which is due here on Nov. 18.

Pittsburgh Arrangements Complete

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 10.—At a meeting with Mayor Lawrence and his food committee, and Moe Silver, Warner Theatre zone manager, arrangements have been completed for the all-out participation of this city in the arrival of the Friendship Food Train. Some 1,800 stores are set to promote the collection of food. Theatres are also cooperating.

Stars Aid Promotion

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Twelve stars have recorded spot announcements to be used in the campaign on the Friendship Train, including Charles Boyer, Jack Carson, Joseph Cotton, Nelson Eddy, Errol Flynn, Ava Gardner, Danny Kaye, Boris Karloff, Fred MacMurray, Virginia Mayo, Gregory Peck, and Ann Sothern.

SAG Asks Members to Send CARE Food for Christmas

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—The Screen Actors Guild board has adopted a resolution caling upon all actors to forego giving Christmas presents in favor of using the money to send food packages to Europe through the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe (CARE).

Levin Heads B'nai B'rith 'Deprivation Day' Group

Jack H. Levin, vice-president and general manager of Confidential Reports, has been appointed New York City chairman of Americanism and civic affairs for the Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith. He will spearhead B'nai B'rith's observance of "Deprivation Day" on Dec. 15, in cooperation with Charles Luckman's Citizens Food Conservation Committee.

Helen O'Toole Daly Ends Theatre Work

Mrs. Helen O'Toole Daly, who has been in charge of the New York office of the former Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America for the past 17 years, has resigned that post, effective Friday. She is the daughter of the late M. J. O'Toole, who was executive director of the MPTOA and predecessor organizations for many years.

Mrs. Daly will retire to private life and the former MPTOA office over which she presided will be combined with Theatre Owners of America offices here.

Depinet Drive Plans Are Set by Mochrie

The 1948 Ned Depinet Drive, starting Dec. 19 and extending to May 6, 1948, will be supervised by Walter Branson, Western division sales manager; Nat Levy, Eastern division, and Charles Boasberg, North-South division, aided by their respective assistants, Harry Gittleson, Frank Drumm and Carl Peppercorn, according to Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president.

The drive captains will make their first visits to exchanges starting Nov. 17. Coordination work will be handled by A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange operations; sales coordinator Gittleson, and advertising coordinator Lou Gaudreau, all under Mochrie.

Music Tax Cut

(*Continued from page 1*)

officials had previously taken place for the purpose of determining whether Ascap is willing to consider negotiations. The latter was agreeable, the Chicago meeting was told, and the TOA board thereupon elected a standing committee on Ascap, comprising: Ed Fabian, Dan Michalove, Fred Wehrenberg, C. E. Cook, Sol Hyman, Maury Miller, Paul Williams, Bob Livingston and Ralph Branton. Elmer Rhoden and Roy Cooper are co-chairmen.

The board also ratified all officers elected at the organizational convention and appointed, to function as a TOA executive committee, Fred Wehrenberg, chairman, S. H. Fabian, Lewen Pizor, E. V. Richards, Robert W. Coyne, Leonard Goldenson and Harry Lowenstein.

Named to work with Fabian on an "advanced-admissions" committee were Pizor, H. F. Kincey, Max Yellen, R. R. Biechele and Frank Newman, Jr.

Julian Brylawski was appointed national legislative committee head.

The job of studying television and its relationship to theatre operation was given to a committee which includes E. V. Richards, chairman; Mitchell Wolfson, Arthur Lockwood, David Wallerstein and Charles Skouras.

Skouras, TOA treasurer, told the meeting that the initial membership assessment of 10 cents per seat has been accepted without objections. President Ted Gamble reported this in New York recently. Skouras emphasized the 10-cent assessment is not to be interpreted as dues and that it will finance the organization for an indeterminate period.

Contempt Citations

(*Continued from page 1*)

ing that the full House should act on the citation. The citations are the first important punitive acts by the committee in its drive to censor film content, the Guild spokesmen said, and should be debated publicly on the House floor.

Under Congressional rules, the Speaker can certify the citations to the U. S. district attorney when the house is not in session.

The citations were voted originally by a sub-committee of the Thomas group, and obtained approval of the full committee, committee sources said, by a poll of absentee members instead of a meeting of the full committee.

Thomas Says Probe Will Reopen Dec. 1

The second stanza in the House Un-American Activities Committee investigation of alleged Communistic influences in Hollywood will get underway on Dec. 1 and continue for two weeks, committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas was reported to have disclosed in an interview with the *New York Times,* at his home in Allendale, N. J. No mention was made as to where the hearings would reopen.

When the hearings reopen at that time, "two items which never have been disclosed will be brought to light," Thomas is reported to have stated. He was said to have "denied emphatically" that the committee would investigate the press, and added that the work of the committee "had just begun" insofar as the film industry is concerned.

Thomas was also quoted as saying that he is not "disappointed" in the hearings held thus far, and that the committee had allowed more civil liberties at the Washington hearings on Hollywood "than any civil court would would ever allow."

Clare Appel Heads MPTA of Ontario

TORONTO, Nov. 10.—Clare J. Appel of Canadian Odeon has been elected president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. The choice for vice-president is H. C. D. Main, independent exhibitor of Toronto.

Other officers include: Secretary, Ralph Dale, National Theatre Services, Toronto; treasurer, William Summerville, Bloom and Fine theatres, Toronto; membership chairman, Roy Miller, Lincoln Theatre, St. Catharines, and finance committee chairman, William Summerville. Committee members include Floyd Rumford, Herbert Allen and Morris Stein.

Funeral Rites Today For Lou Rydell, 53

Funeral services for Lou Rydell, 53, advertising manager of *Variety* for more than 20 years, will be held today at 12:30 noon at Riverside Chapel here. Rydell died Sunday evening of a heart attack at his home on Park Ave. He was one of a small group to whom the late Sime Silverman, founder of *Variety,* willed shares in the publication.

Besides the widow, Barbara, survivors include a sister and four brothers, one of whom, Sam, is manager of the RKO Jefferson Theatre, New York.

'Outlaw' Withdrawn

(*Continued from page* 1)

the picture, we would have at that time given them consideration."

Asserting that he had returned from California over the weekend, Goldman said he had waited for approval of the picture by the Pennsylvania board of censors before booking it, and added that he did not feel the film was offensive to public morals.

He also pointed out the difficulty of getting suitable films to enable him to run the Erlanger, which reopened here Oct. 29, and the theatre will now be closed again since he claims no picture is available for it.

Protest Suggested on 10-Day Film Boycott

CINCINNATI, Nov. 10.—Charges of unfairness were voiced by Louis Wiethe, president of the Theatres Owners Association, and F. W. Huss, Jr., head of the Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors Association, in protest against the suggestion of Archbishop John T. McNicholas, precipitated by the local showing of "Forever Amber," that Catholics back up the church's disapproval of what it considers immoral pictures by boycotting all theatres "for a week or 10 days."

"This is a blow to independent theatres, and we are not a party to the matter," Wiethe declared. "I don't object to the condemnation of 'Forever Amber,' but it seems that the line of approach is unfair," he added.

Troy CYO Pickets 'Amber'

TROY, Nov. 10.—Picketing of "Forever Amber" by members of the Catholic Youth Organization cut into receipts at the Troy Theatre here, currently showing the film condemned by the Legion of Decency. Other factors in the boxoffice drop were the refusal of local newspapers to accept advertising for the picture and the cancellation of radio anouncements by the local station.

Youths of the CYO, both boys and girls, paraded with signs in front of the theatre the day before "Amber" was to open; then, joined by a group of adults, the demonstration continued for the first two days of the showing. Mayor John J. Ahearn asked that the picture be cancelled, as did the Albany unit of the Legion of Decency.

'Forever Amber' Is Pulled in Toronto

TORONTO, Nov. 10.—Following adverse comment and a box-office slump after a big opening, "Forever Amber" was pulled at the large Imperial Theatre, here, after one week although advertisements had appeared announcing a holdover of the roadshow film. A quick substitution of "Wild Harvest" was made at a lower price scale.

"Forever Amber" also did not complete its scheduled two weeks at Famous Players' Regent in Ottawa, being taken off at the end of the ninth day after blasts from the clergy. Resistance to the high admission scale was also evident.

Eight of 10 Films Are Given Adult Ratings

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 10.—Eight of 10 films reviewed in the current bulletin of the Columbus and Franklin County Motion Picture Council were given adult or mature family ratings, and only two were labeled fit for the whole family. The eight include: "Body and Soul," "Something in the Wind," "Singapore," "That's My Man," "Dark Passage," "The Lost Moment," "The Pretender" and "The Stepchild." Listed for the entire family were "Bowery Buckaroo" and "Driftwood."

Review

"The Road to Rio"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Nov. 10

FAR and away the best of the Crosby-Hope-Lamour "Road" pictures on points and by count of audience laughs, and the box-office insurance it carries. There is the Bing Crosby record—seven times among the "Top Ten" in *Motion Picture Herald's* annual "Money-Making-Stars" poll of exhibitors, and No. One star for the past three years—and there is the Bob Hope record—six times among the "Top Ten" in the same balloting. Add Dorothy Lamour, who has gone along with the boys on all of their "Road" adventures, the Andrews Sisters, singing a sock number with Bing, and Jerry Colonna, in the picture briefly but screamingly, and how can you keep the people from knocking the doors down to get in?

This excursion into the never-never land where Bing, Bob and Dotty habitually find so much to engage them so laughably, starts sprinting from scratch and never draws a long breath. Possibly largely accountable for the zip and variety of the proceedings is the fact that Edmund Beloin, the comedy writer who rigged up that Jack Benny radio formula which stil prospers so lustily, is responsible, with Jack Rose, for the story and script. Production by Daniel Dare and direction by Norman Z. McLeod are bright as a dollar, and the songs, chiefly by James Van Heusen and Johnny Burke, are of the right kind to fit the occasion without pre-empting priority over the sheer hilarity of the tale being told.

The plot, to use the term as lightly as the picture uses the plot, concerns the adventures of Bing and Bob, a vaudeville act addicted also to performance on the clarinet and trumpet, when, fleeing the wrathful vengeance of a carnival owner whose show they had just wrecked, board a Brazil-bound steamer and find upon it the delectable Miss Lamour, the malevolent Gail Sondergaard, who mesmerizes her now and then for ulterior purposes, and a couple of gangsters employed by the latter. They arrive ultimately in Rio, get into and out of all sorts of complications, obtain possession of "the papers," the nature of which is never revealed, and wind upon the lucky side of the conflict, Bob getting the girl this time.

The comedy covers the widest possible range, from the slickest of Hope wisecracks on down through the Crosby smoothies to the zenith of slapstick, notably including a bicycle act on a tight wire performed by Hope without notice or consent. The audience at the Bruin Theatre, Westwood, a place seldom if ever used before for preview purposes, lifted the rafters repeatedly with laughter. Showmen everywhere should batten down their seats before the picture opens.

Running time, 100 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

1st-Runs Soar

(*Continued from page* 1)

dous in its debut, taking in about $85,000 Thursday through Sunday, and indicating $145,000 for the week. "Escape Me Never," with Frankie Carle's orchestra, went over big at the Strand, the initial week's take being estimated at $58,000. Good, too, is "So Well Remembered," at the Palace, which figures on $28,000 for the first week. The Winter Garden's newcomer, "The Upturned Glass," is about fair, with $24,000 apparent for its first week.

The holdover boxscore is estimated as follows: "Forever Amber," with a stage show at the Roxy, third week, $112,000; "Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, fourth week, $40,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, fifth week, $44,000; "The Gangster," Victoria, second, $23,000; "The Unfinished Dance," with Shep Fields' orchestra, Capitol, second, $47,000; "Life With Father," Warner, 13th week, $21,000; "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 13th, $26,000; "Nightmare Alley," Mayfair, fifth week (four days), $9,170; "Beware of Pity," Park, second, $5,000; "The Outlaw," Broadway, ninth, $16,000; "Variety Girl," with Charlie Spivak's orchestra, Capitol, fourth week, $55,000.

Para. Disposes

(*Continued from page* 1)

shares of its own common on the open market for use instead of actual cash in buying theatres in order to increase its interests in certain affiliated circuits to the 95 per cent ownership stipulation of the court in the industry anti-trust suit. Under the court decision, if a distributor owns less than 95 per cent or more than five per cent interests in partnerships it must dispose of its interest. The defendants have, of course, appealed this decision, and a ruling is pending.

Last month Paramount purchased 58,900 shares on the open market, bringing its purchase total to 537,300. Less the 135,000 which were removed, the treasury total is now 402,300.

UA Units

(*Continued from page* 1)

months. Thus, Kelly said, the company can now list the residue on these pictures in statements to banks concerning producers' bids for financing new films. As he explained, a bank would be willing to provide, say, $500,000 for a new picture upon the assurance that the producer will have forthcoming from England $200,000 of his own money to invest.

Pickford, Cohn, Rogers Due Here

Mary Pickford, co-owner of United Artists, is due here from the Coast on Friday, to be followed over the weekend by her Triangle Productions partners, Ralph Cohn and Buddy Rogers. The latter two will bring with them a print of "Sleep My Love."

Norway Cuts Film Imports by 50%

LONDON, Nov. 10.—Foreign currency allowance in Norway for film imports has been slashed 50 per cent to 2,000,000 kroner ($400,000) for 1948 by the Norwegian foreign exchange council, it has been learned here. The cut followed a government warning of the necessity for a general reduction in imports to avert a serious currency crisis.

Gerald Mayer, head of the Motion Picture Association's international division, has placed a study of the film situation in Norway on his agenda in the course of his trip through Europe, the MPA office discloses here. Mayer departed yesterday.

Jackson Park Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

admission prices for certain pictures; neighborhood theatres cannot run a film more than a week in any run after the Loop showing.

The ruling, according to Thomas C. McConnell, attorney for the plaintiff who started litigation five years ago, involves all of the Chicago district and will help theatres as far away as Springfield, Peoria and Milwaukee. It also means, he said, that Loop theatres will have to play closer to the national release date and the Loop no longer will be a bottleneck keeping neighborhood houses from getting good movies.

The Jackson Park Theatre case did not involve block booking, and Seeley said that under the injunction the film distributors still are entitled to decide how rentals will be handled.

The high court action in effect also upholds lower court rulings that the majors must cease fixing minimum admission prices, allow free competitive bidding for films, grant reasonable clearances, cease restricting pictures, and generally discontinue the "conspiracy to restrain and monopolize interstate trade and commerce in films."

Companies affected are RKO, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Warners and Balaban and Katz.

Today's refusal to take the case was the second Supreme Court action in the Jackson Park suit. In the spring of 1944, the high court found that there was sufficient evidence to permit a jury to find the theatre had been damaged by its inability to obtain pictures until played in competing theatres owned by exhibitor-distributors.

The theatre then filed a supplemental complaint asking additional damages on all issues on the ground that "the general verdict of the jury as approved by the higher courts constitues an estoppel by verdict between the parties in favor of plaintiffs on all issues of fact which were in issue before the jury in this suit."

The majors then contended that they should be allowed to present new evidence, but without such action, the lower courts approved the decree restraining the defendants and awarding damages.

The majors' appeal to the Supreme Court contended that the matter of damages should have been decided by the taking of new evidence, instead of an award on the basis of the original court trial.

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48 from 20th In 1948, 21 More Than '47

Reissues Excluded in Next Year's Program

Forty-eight features in '48. That was the program disclosed here yesterday for 20th Century-Fox by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, at the second of a three-day conference of division sales managers.

The total is nearly 60 per cent larger than 1947's, with its approximate 27 new features—plus eight reissues. The 48 for '48 exclude reissues. Included are the "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile" roadshows, Darryl F. Zanuck's "Gentleman's Agreement," 20 additional specials from Movietone City, four specials from Sir Alexander

(*Continued on page* 2)

Local H-63 Seeking Warner Wage Rise

Spurred activity on the New York film labor front is evidenced in disclosures that IATSE Local No. H-63 (office employes) is preparing for further talks to bring local scales for office workers up to the level charted in the wage pact concluded last June with Warner Brothers.

Following the pattern established in the Warner agreement, discussions of a wage reopening, which began last July 1, have been concluded at Universal, with increases provided for 450 employes, including 100 at the U-I Castle Films brought under an

(*Continued on page* 4)

Drive to Organize All 'Lab' Men Here

Coupled with a "hope" that Mayor O'Dwyer's attempts to attract production to New York succeeds in getting even "only 10 per cent" of West Coast production, IATSE Local No. 702 (Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians) has mapped an organizational drive to attract to its ranks all non-union film processing personnel in the East, John J. Francavilla, president of the local, revealed here yesterday.

A committee to handle the campaign will be named Friday at a meeting of the local's executive board, he declared as he disclosed that East-

(*Continued on page* 4)

O'Dwyer, Fielding Confirm Myers' Film Intervention

Mayor William O'Dwyer and Benjamin Fielding, former New York City License Commissioner, said yesterday that Bennett E. Myers, retired major-general, had attempted to intercede with them to permit the exhibition in New York of Howard Hughes' picture, "The Outlaw."

Mayor O'Dwyer said the conversation with General Myers took place at El Centro, California, in October, 1946, when the mavor went there following the death of his wife. He said he told Myers that all the Hughes

(*Continued on page* 2)

MPF Trustees Meet Will Be Set Today

Motion Picture Foundation organizing leaders are scheduled to meet here today to set a date and place for the national trustees meeting which will weld into a national entity all 31 MPF territorial units to be established eventually, a Foundation spokesman disclosed yesterday.

Since mid-April, when area organizational activity got underway, all but two of the 31 exchange areas have fully or partially established local operating machinery. The two are Indianapolis and Los Angeles. Thus far 22 trustees have been elected to

(*Continued on page* 2)

US-British 5-Year Deal Is Looked For

American film leaders are thinking in terms of a compromise arrangement on the British ad valorem tax which would be in effect for five years, it is indicated here. After five years the situation would be reviewed in the light of economic conditions at that time, it was said.

Johnston May Go to London Soon on Tax

LONDON, Nov. 11.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, is expected here by plane immediately following completion of the exploratory talks being held by F. W. Allport, European manager of the MPA, with Treasury officials on revision of Britain's 75 per cent film tax.

A second meeting between Allport and Sir Wilfred Eady, Second Secretary of the Treasury, is to be held this week. The first was held last Friday, and Eady reported to Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton yesterday on the initial meeting. The Treasury denied that Eady will go to America on the tax discussions.

While it was stated that no specific proposal for settlement of the film tax impasse has been discussed yet, authoritative sources insist that the Treasury has under consideration the plan by

(*Continued on page* 4)

Decision Is Closer on Canadian Import Ban

OTTAWA, Nov. 11.—Film industry speculations on possible restrictions on Canadian importation of U. S. films are expected to be answered at least two months earlier than was anticipated. With the summoning of the Canadian Parliament to special session beginning Dec. 5, as reported, because of a mounting dollar shortage in this country, there appears to be a growing possibility that films will be high on the Parliamentary agenda. Government officials remain silent on this, however.

Meanwhile, decisions which may be made at the special session of the U. S. Congress—particularly if they involve the Marshall Plan for aid to Europe—are expected to influence decisions made at Ottawa. It is understood that large U. S. purchases of Canadian

(*Continued on page* 4)

Ontario Theatre Fronts Darkened

Toronto, Nov. 11. — The major portion of Ontario went under a blackout last night with the enforcement of new hydro-electric regulations backed by provincial law which placed a ban on illuminated outdoor signs and lobby displays, as well as floodlights. Action was taken because of power shortages.

Theatres are allowed to use limited lights for entrances and exits. The conservation measure will remain in force until spring.

UK Plan Would Leave Present Earnings Free

Millions Are Involved in Films Now in England

American film companies will endeavor to have continued, unaffected, the free remittance of earnings on product now in England in negotiating a compromise arrangement covering new pictures, a top U. S. executive disclosed here yesterday.

At the time Britain's 75 per cent import tax went into effect, last July, it was estimated that 125 U. S. features were in that country with a potential value, in terms of remittable money, of some $34,000,000, exclusive of their subsequent value as re-issues.

Thus, the companies aim to realize the complete earnings of the balance

(*Continued on page* 4)

CEA Resists Credit Tightening by KRS

By PETER BURNUP

BIRMINGHAM, England, Nov. 11.—"High-handed and autocratic!" were among the denunciatory terms used today at a meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association's general purposes committee, here, to describe the Kinematograph Renters Society decision to tighten up credit periods allowed exhibitors in paying film rentals.

The CEA, deciding that the standard renters contract is antiquated and unfair, demanded that the matter be referred immediately to a joint standing committee of renters and exhibitors. CEA protested, additionally, that KRS had not previously discussed the matter with CEA, and plans to inform

(*Continued on page* 4)

M-G-M Board to Discuss Payrolls

Hollywood, Nov. 11.—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's executive board will meet here tomorrow to discuss plans for further economies in studio payrolls. Charles Moskowitz, board member, arrived here today from New York and will join the discussions.

According to reports, the studio's producer staffs will be pruned.

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, Theatre Owners of America president, has gone to Portland, Ore., on business and is scheduled to return to New York in a few weeks.

•

ROBERT T. OESTREICHER, member of the Columbus, O., Variety Tent No. 2, has been reelected for a second four-year term in the City Council.

•

MALCOLM J. BRUNET, assistant manager of the Imperial Theatre, New Orleans, and MRS. BRUNET, are the parents of a girl born Oct. 18.

•

BEN COHEN, Monogram branch manager in Atlanta, has left for a business trip to Tennessee and Georgia.

•

O. S. BARNETT, Monogram's Atlanta office manager, has been confined to a hospital there because of illness.

•

W. E. CARROLL of Falls City Theatre Equipment Co., has returned to Louisville from Cincinnati.

MPF Trustees Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

represent as many areas. In addition to the nine others yet to be named, the national meeting will be attended by 10 trustees-at-large representing distributing companies.

Setting of a trustees meeting date at this time, it was said, should hasten the completion of organization work in the field. The Foundation is reported to be backed by well over $1,000,000 already toward attainment of its goal of $10,000,000 for the aid of needy in the film industry.

Leonard Goldenson, national organizational chairman, will preside at today's meeting.

Martin Defers Action On Contempt Cases

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Action on contempt citations issued by the House Un-American Activities Committee against 10 'hostile' witnesses at the recent hearings here was deferred today by Speaker Joseph Martin, after attorneys for the 10 were granted an hour's private hearing.

The attorneys, Martin Popper of Washington and Lester M. Levin of New York, are demanding that the House as a whole act on the citations. Under normal procedure, Speaker Martin can act while the House is not in session, but he has indicated that he has some doubts concerning technicalities in this case.

Cleveland Owners' Meet

CLEVELAND, Nov. 11.—The effect of the city three per cent amusement tax on local theatre admissions will be the topic for discussion at a meeting of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, called by president-secretary Ernest Schwartz.

48 from 20th

(*Continued from page 1*)

Korda's London Films, three from Edward Alperson's Alson Pictures, and the remaining 18 from independents, as follows: six each from Sol Wurtzel and Reliance and three each from Frank Seltzer and Samuel Baerowitz, former M-G-M producer.

Ten will be in Technicolor, seven of them from the company's studios and three from Korda. Seventeen of the 23 from 20th and two Kordas are either already completed or are well along.

Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, discussed general distribution policy at the meeting yesterday.

Smith Lists Product

Product announced by Smith follows:

"Daisy Kenyon," by Elizabeth Janeway, starring Joan Crawford, Dana Andrews and Henry Fonda, directed and produced by Otto Preminger;

"Thunder in the Valley," color, based on Alfred Ollivant's "Bob, Son of Battle," starring Lon McCallister, Louis King, director;

"Forever Amber," color, best-seller. Starring Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene, Otto Preminger, director;

"Captain from Castile," color, Henry King, director;

"You Were Meant for Me," by Elick Moll and Valentine Davies, starring Jeanne Crain, Dan Dailey and Oscar Levant. Lloyd Bacon, director;

"Ballad of Furnace Creek," by Charles Booth, H. Bruce Humberstone, director;

"Gentleman's Agreement," starring Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and John Garfield, Elia Kazan, director;

"Give My Regards to Broadway," color, Lloyd Bacon, director.

Also: "Call Northside 777," starring James Stewart, Henry Hathaway, director;

"Deep Water," based on Ruth Moore's "Spoonhandle," starring Dana Andrews, Jean Peters and Dean Stockwell, Henry King, director;

"Street With No Name," William Keighley, director;

"The Walls of Jericho," by Paul I. Wellman, John M. Stahl, director;

"Sitting Pretty," by F. Hugh Herbert, starring Clifton Webb, Maureen O'Hara and Robert Young, Walter Lang, director;

"Green Grass of Wyoming," color, Louis King, director;

"The Snake Pit," by Mary Jane Ward, starring Olivia De Havilland, Anatole Litvak, director;

"Summer Lightning," color, based on George Agnew Chamberlain's "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay," F. Hugh Herbert, director;

"Escape," John Galsworthy's play, starring Rex Harrison and Peggy Cummins, Joseph Mankiewicz, director.

Chodorov Directs

Also "Road House," Margaret Gruen-Oscar Saul novel, "Dark Love," starring Ida Lupino, Victor Mature and Mark Stevens, Edward Chodorov, director;

"Apartment for Susie," by Faith Baldwin, starring Jeanne Crain, George Seaton, director;

"This Is the Moment," color, based on the operetta, "Lady in Ermine," starring Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Ernst Lubitsch, director;

"The Iron Curtain," by Milton Krims;

"Burlesque," Broadway play, starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey;

"Call Me Mister," Broadway Musical.

The Korda productions include: "An Ideal Husband," color, Oscar Wilde's play, starring Paulette Goddard, Korda, director;

"Anna Karenina," Tolstoy novel and play, starring Vivien Leigh, Julieu Duvivier, director;

"I Will Repay," color, starring Rex Harrison;

"Bonnie Prince Charlie," color, starring David Niven, Margaret Leighton and Will Fyfe, Robert Stevenson, director.

From Alson Productions will come the following:

"The Tender Years," by Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., starring Joe E. Brown;

"If This Be My Destiny," by Frank Davis, starring Robert Cummings.

"Rose of Cimmaron," by W. R. Burnett.

'Body' Exploitation Campaign Pays Off

Every exploitable angle having been pushed to the full, the promotion campaign for "Body and Soul," dating back to July, proved completely effective when the film established an opening-day record at the Globe here, according to Paul Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director of United Artists. It was pointed out that the newspaper reviews, which were uniformly enthusiastic, were not published until the following day.

Evidence of unusual "breaks" nationally, as well as in New York, was furnished in reams of clippings of repeated references to the picture, in gossip and news columns and in layout in national magazines and Sunday supplements.

The radio "push" centered around the title song of the picture, with prominent bands, disc jockeys and commentators giving it air time. Dozens of special screenings were held.

The "dispute" between the National Boxing Guild and UA and Enterprise was covered extensively in the sports pages. In New York alone seven of the nine dailies gave it space. News and photograph syndicates carried numerous features on the principals of the picture.

Catholic Vets Praise 'Outlaw' Withdrawal

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Withdrawal of "The Outlaw" from the Erlanger Theatre by operator William Goldman was praised today by Daniel McAuley, representing the local chapter of the Catholic War Veterans.

McAuley added "We shall continue to picket the Fox Theatre so long as 'Forever Amber' is displayed."

The Fox Theatre, which has made no further statements regarding Cardinal Dougherty's protest against "Amber," had a second week gross of $29,000, which is above average for this house.

O'Dwyer

(*Continued from page 1*)

interests had to do to obtain city approval of the film was to clean it up and to use a more restrained advertising campaign.

Fielding said that Myers told him that Hughes had offered a commission of $100,000 if Myers could get "The Outlaw" shown in New York in its original form.

In Washington yesterday, Hughes denied to the Senate investigating committee that he had offered Myers $100,000.

Five of the six Wurtzel productions include: "Dangerous Years," "Half-Past Midnight," "Arthur Takes Over," "Tucson" and "Ticket to Nowhere." The sixth will be set later.

Edward Small of Reliance Pictures announces these six:

The new adventures of Bulldog Drummond, "The Challenge" and "13 Lead Soldiers"; "The Creepers"; "Santa Fe Uprising"; "Killers of the Sea," and "The Cat Man."

Samuel Baerowitz's three will star Tom Conway, well-known for his characterizations in the "Falcon" pictures.

"Oh, Brother" will be the first of the three Frank Seltzer and his associates will make.

Newsreel Parade

SECRETARY Marshall sounding a plea for Europe, and the nationwide tour of the food train are featured in all current newsreels. Football events round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 22—Secretary Marshall outlines European recovery plan to Congress. American food for Europe. Thirty horses compete in turf classic. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 220—Secretary Marshall asks aid to save freedom in Europe. Food train starts tour of nation. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 24—Food for Europe. Secretary Marshall gives Congress his plan to aid Europe. Celebrities salute Bob Hope. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 90—Secretary Marshall asks Congress for aid to Europe. Food train begins trip from California. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 25—Friendship train crossing U. S.

Services Held Here For Lou Rydell

A Masonic funeral service was held at Riverside Chapel, here, yesterday for Lou Rydell, 53, advertising manager of *Variety*, who died at his home on Park Ave. Sunday evening. Burial was at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Long Island.

In addition to Rydell's associates at *Variety* and many industry trade press executives, among those who attended the rites were Maurice Bergman, Al Adams, Bruce Gallup, Hal Horne, Henry A. Linet, S. Barret McCormick, William Ornstein, Ben Serkowich, Milton Silver and Terry Turner.

5th and Walnut Drops Injunction Plea

Fifth and Walnut Co., Louisville, and Albert J. Hoffman, owner of the National Theatre, there, whose $2,100,000 triple damage joint anti-trust action against the majors is pending in Federal Court, here, has dropped a plea for an injunction to restrain the majors from allegedly monopolizing Louisville first-run operations. Following this, Judge John C. Knox set the case for trial next March 2.

Lloyd 'U' Suits Settled

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11. — Two suits by Harold Lloyd against Universal, asking for a total of $1,700,000 for alleged piracy of material from his "Freshman" and "Movie Crazy" and other pictures, has been settled out of court for an undisclosed amount. Settlement followed an Appellate Court affirmation of a recent decision awarding Lloyd $65,000 for one cited instance of plagiarism.

Academy Names Walls

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11. — Howard Walls, former curator of the Library of Congress film division, has been named curator of the film archives of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Walls leaves for Washington Wednesday to arrange for a shipment of early films owned by the Congressional Library.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"We're ready to buy! What have you got to sell, Mister Exhibitor?"

THE PUBLIC ASKS AND M-G-M ANSWERS!

Lana Turner as bold Marianne who stole her sister's man. Big cast includes Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart and thousands more!

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" HIT!

Just what the public wants! New M-G-M records at the Criterion, N. Y. 5th big week and still going strong. And in a poll of the audience by Motion Picture Research Bureau, it reveals 92% excellent or very good, the highest rating in N. Y. audience history. Your folks will flock to see the biggest spectacular romance in 10 years!

"THIS TIME FOR KEEPS" SOCKO!

If it's an M-G-M Technicolor Musical your public knows there's a treat in store. And it's packing them in nationwide. Not since "Bathing Beauty" has there been anything like it, the Aqua-revels, the gorgeous girls, an appealing love story, songs galore and top entertainers including Esther Williams, Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, new romantic singer Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra and plenty more.

Esther Williams in spectacular Aqua-revels

Clark Gable holds Vivien Leigh—and you hold-over!

"GONE WITH THE WIND" REPEATS!

The miracle Technicolor picture of all time. Every engagement proves that everybody wants to see it. There's a whole new teen-age public plus countless folks who are coming again. Extended engagements are the rule! (A David O. Selznick Production. An M-G-M Release).

"CASS TIMBERLANE" BEGINS!

Another BIG M-G-M entertainment starts its history-making career. S.R.O. audiences at the Radio City Music Hall World Premiere engagement are enthralled at the love story that seventeen million readers of Sinclair Lewis' novel are waiting to see. Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Zachary Scott in a great de luxe production!

Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner —an exciting romance!

AND WATCH FOR MORE FROM M-G-M!

"GOOD NEWS"—Celebrate a gay Technicolor New Years!
"KILLER McCOY"—Trade Press in unanimous raves!
"THE BIRDS AND THE BEES"—Technicolor Musical Joy!
"HIGH WALL"—Terrific thriller! *High* receipts too!

News Briefs . . .

PARAMOUNT has closed its branch in Portland, Ore., moving booking and clerical departments to Seattle where the Washington-Oregon territory will be under management of Henry Haustein. A shipping office only will be maintained in Portland.

Home office officials declined to state whether the consolidation will be adopted in other cities.

Newsreels Feature O'Dwyer's Food Train Appeal Here

All newsreels are carrying shots of Mayor O'Dwyer's radio address in behalf of the Friendship Food Train which is now en route to the East from the Coast. Harry Warner is chairman of the drive committee. The train is due in Chicago on Friday, and Illinois Governor Green will participate in the reception being prepared by Chicago film industry and civic leaders.

Hollywood Stars Will Aid British Industry Charity

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Hollywood stars who will sail tomorrow from New York on the *S.S. Queen Mary* for London to attend the Nov. 25 Royal Command performance of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," will make several appearances in England in behalf of charities of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston announces. Participating will be Bob Hope, Loretta Young, Robert Montgomery, Alexis Smith and Craig Stevens.

$750,000 Anti-Trust Action Filed by Dallas Exhibitor

DALLAS, Nov. 11.—Tivoli Realty, operator of the new Delman Theatre, here, which began operations last Sept. 4, has filed an anti-trust suit in U. S. District Court at Wilmington, Del., asking $750,000 triple damages aganist Interstate, Texas Consolidated, Paramount and other distributors. Among other restraining efforts, plaintiff seeks to enjoin and terminate contracts or arrangements of the distributors with Interstate and other exhibitors on terms "substantially better than" offered to the Delman and other independents.

BOOK THEM NOW
Viviane Romance (L. Jouvet)
IN
"SIROCCO"
Gaby Morlay, Pierre Jourdan
IN
"BLUE VEIL"
Micheline Presle, Raymond Rouleau
IN
"FALBALAS"
Coming Soon
Sacha Guitry
IN
"DONNE-MOI TES YEUX"
Danielle Darrieux
IN
"GIRLS' CLUB"
"TRIUMPH OF LOVE"
Based on Lysistrata by Aristophanes
Léo Cohen
150 West 49th St., New York 19, N. Y.

11 Albany Variety Directors

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 11.—Following have been elected board members of the Variety Club tent here: Harry Lamont, Saul Ullman, Joseph Saperstein, Jack Bulwinkle, Daniel Houlihan, Arthur Newman, Jerry Atkin, Leonard Rosenthal, Eugene Lowe, Dr. Samuel Kalison, and Eugene Tepper. Newman and Saperstein have been named national convention delegates, with Leo Rosen as alternate.

DeMille Defends Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Cecil B. DeMille declared that so-called un-American influences were neither more nor less active in Hollywood than in many other major U. S. cities, upon his return here from an 11-city, 35-day tour during which he made 54 speeches before civic, educational and patriotic organizations.

Chicago Bans Two Pictures

CHICAGO, Nov. 11.—Some 109 pictures were viewed by the Chicago Censor Board during October, and of these, two were banned and three given an "adult only" tag.

Rejected were Capitol Films' "Night at the Follies" and Distinguished Film's French production of "Amock." Given "pink slips" were 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" and Clasa's "Good Friend" and "I Killed Rosita Alverz," both Mexican pictures.

Form Re-issue Circuit

CLEVELAND, Nov. 11.—Seven subsequent-run independent theatres have combined to form a reissue circuit, similar to one in Detroit. E. J. Stutz of Realart Pictures is in charge of booking for the group and will handle the co-operative advertising. Policy, initially, is to play dual reissues a full week. Houses involved are the Metropolitan, Abbey, Market Square, Hough-79th, Ridge, Lincoln and Moreland.

Organize 'Lab' Men

(*Continued from page* 1)

man Kodak laboratories scattered in the New York area will be the local's chief objective. Of a total of 350 persons still to be brought into the union fold in the East, some 200 technicians are employed by E-K, he said.

While discounting possible effects of East Coast production on the number of 702's membership, Francavilla, who was inducted last Friday by IATSE president Richard F. Walsh into his sixth term as president of the local, said that the basic consequence would be the assurance of steady employment for the membership. A 10 per cent boost in Eastern production would probably add some 300 to the 1,750 laboratory technicians now employed in the area.

Remittances from Austria Delayed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Any film remittances from Austria are not likely "for a long time," due to the current foreign exchange shortage, according to the U. S. Commerce Department.

A report, prepared by film consultant Nathan D. Golden, sees an annual film market in Austria of 150 features, plus shorts and newsreels, and estimates that 50 of the 150 will come from the U. S. Of the balance, 50 will come from Great Britain and 25 each from France and Russia, the report states, with only positive prints imported because of a lack of raw stock.

UK Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the 125 films which have yet to be played off and since some distributors —as United Artists—have had difficulty in obtaining bookings of their current U. K. backlog, and others curtailed releases, potential remittances would be substantial, involving many million. That is, of course, if the British Treasury and the Motion Picture Association reach an agreement on restrictions on new product which would not interfere with U. S. films in England before the tax.

Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

which American companies would be permitted to withdraw 50 per cent of their earnings here up to $48,000,000 annually and permanently invest the remaining 50 per cent in government-approved securities or methods for a five-year period. Co-related is an effort to induce American companies to aid British films in earning $16,000,000 annually in the United States in place of the current estimated $4,000,000.

Local H-63

(*Continued from page* 1)

agreement for the first time, Russell Moss, business agent of H-63, disclosed here yesterday. Identical with the Warner settlement, the wage clause provides a $4 rise for "white collar" workers earning under $30 a week, $5 for those earning from $30 to $39.99, $6 for those receiving $40 to $59.99, and $7 for employes earning $60 or more.

Negotiations are still under way with Consolidated Film Industries where, according to Moss, the scale for some 45 Fort Lee employes is "considerably out of line" with the New York level. No flat demand has been voiced by the union, he added, but it is estimated that an average $8-a-week CFI boost would be necessary to attain the area scale. Another parley will be held this week with company executives.

Within the next two weeks talks are expected to start with Paramount News and Pathe Laboratories. The Pathe meetings for H-63's first pact with the company are being resumed after a lapse occasioned by the adoption of the Taft-Hartley law, the absence of Nick Tronolone, Pathe vice-president, in Mexico, and the necessity for intervention by Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, Moss declared. The contract would follow the Warner pattern.

Mexicans Ask for New Exchange Rate

Mexico City, Nov. 11.—In view of what it terms "the devaluated condition of Mexico," the Confederation of Chambers of Commerce has called for a change in the present "unsatisfactory" foreign exchange rate in order to aid Mexican exports. Film executives here, especially distributors and equipment dealers, have expressed concern over the proposal.

The present exchange rate has prevailed since Sept., 1939.

CEA Changes Stand On Renters' Quota

BIRMINGHAM, Eng., Nov. 11.—Following explanation by the British Board of Trade of the terms involved in undertakings of American companies to produce in England, the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association has decided to withdraw its objections to the abandonment of the renters quota in the forthcoming quota bill.

In a letter to CEA, the BOT inferred that it expects a happy outcome from the current Anglo-American talks here on the *ad valorem* tax situation.

CEA Resists KRS

(*Continued from page* 1)

the British Board of Trade that it considers this to be an unhappy time for KRS to endeavor to gather more dollars which will immediately flow to America and thereby add to Britain's difficulties.

KRS, attempting to abolish the relatively easy credit terms extended during and because of the war, has called upon exhibitors to render daily box-office returns and to pay in full within seven days of a screening. CEA, however, has advised exhibitors to ignore the notices.

Canadian Imports

(*Continued from page* 1)

goods for shipment to aid Europe would ease Canada's dollar supply, thus lessening the extent or even the possibility of Canadian restrictions against American film and other imports.

Canada's adverse trade balance with the U. S. has risen another $73,800,000, to bring the total for the year to an all-time high of $718,300,000. There is a possibility of a peak of $900,000,000 or more being reached by the year-end. At $718,300,000 the trading deficit was $221,600,000 over the total for all of 1946.

FWC Houses Still Open

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 11.—With no change in the stalemate between Projectionists Local No. 150 and Fox West Coast Theatres in their dispute over the scale paid in FWC houses playing "Forever Amber," all 12 theatres continued to operate with staffs working under temporary city licenses.

FWC executives are reported to have filed 35 applications for license examinations in the event the dispute continues.

Feature Reviews

"Night Song"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Nov. 11

LOTS of different kinds of people can find what they want in this picture. Romantics can yearn and sigh with Merle Oberon and Dana Andrews in the course of their odd love story. People who relish humor expertly dealt with can get many a lift from the performances by Ethel Barrymore and Hoagy Carmichael. And lovers of classical music may relax contendedly while Artur Rubenstein performs at the piano with the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, under direction of Eugene Ormandy. Utter perfectionists can complain that the story peters out disappointingly at the finish, [illegible] it is not to be gainsaid that a lot of entertainment has been had before it.

The script, by Frank Fenton and Dick Irving Hyland, from a Hyland story, sets up the case of a rich girl (Miss Oberon) attracted by a blind pianist (Andrews) who is embittered by his loss of sight to the point of disdaining friendships. To break through his reserve, she takes another name and pretends blindness, winning him over and ultimately back to earnest pursuit of his musical career. Under her own name she arranges a contest, which he wins, so that he can pay for an expensive operation with the prize money. But when he has regained his vision, and fame is his, he does not return to the blind girl, going for bright lights and glamorous women instead. So she follows him, under her own name, and he falls in love with her again, not realizing the deception, but in a quick switch to loyalty he goes back to find the blind girl. She gets there first, and when he discovers she is the same girl he wordlessly forgives the fraud and they embrace.

Produced by Harriet Parsons, for executive producer Jack J. Gross, and directed by John Cromwell, the attraction is smartly turned out in every respect. Incidentally, its point seems to be, if any, that a person possessed of great wealth can and sometimes does employ it to help somebody who has not any, which doubtless will upset searchers for subversive propaganda.

Running time, 102 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Beware of Pity"

(J. Arthur Rank)

HEAVILY laden with philosophical discourses on human emotions, this latest from Britain, from the novel by Stefan Zweig, is a grim affair, long and with tendencies toward long-windedness. "Beware of Pity" in the reading apparently was a skillful probing of a woman's love for a handsome soldier and the latter's requital of only sympathy, bestirred by her infirmity. Placed on the screen appears to be the book in its entirety, resulting in an excessive wordiness that detracts from the dramatic intensity of the story line.

Lilli Palmer and Sir Cedric Hardwicke handle their acting assignments in good fashion, she as a cripple and he as the family doctor. The Czechoslovak soldier of the period just prior to the first world war is played, and in certain instances overplayed, by Albert Lieven. Others are Gladys Cooper, Linden Travers, Emrys Jones, Ralph Truman and Ernest Thesiger.

Yet to be decided is whether distribution will be under the banner of Prestige Pictures or Universal-International. J. Arthur Rank's Two-Cities company made it with W. P. Lipscomb and Maurice Elvey as the producers. Lipscomb did the screenplay and Elvey directed.

Running time, 102 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"The Return of Rin Tin Tin"

(Eagle Lion)

AN emotionally disturbed war orphan starts on the way to readjustment with the adoption of a runaway dog. "The Return of Rin Tin Tin," filmed in Vitacolor, presents Bobby Blake as the boy and Rin Tin Tin III as the canine performer. The production has a warm and sincere quality and its occasional stretches of outdoor excitement seem especially designed to please the kiddies. But there may be others who will find the story's development too obvious.

His faith shattered by war-time memories, Bobby is placed in a mission where he can enjoy the wholesome influences of nature. A stray dog comes into his life, and just as the boy gets to love the animal, the owner arrives to claim it. A few obstacles are overcome, and boy and dog are finally reunited. Donald Woods serves adequately as the mission's moderator. Max Nosseck directed, from a screenplay by Jack DeWitt, and William Stephens produced.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 1.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Return of the Lash"

(Eagle-Lion)

ANOTHER formula "horse-opera." Co-stars are Al (Lash) La Rue and Al (Fuzzy) St. John, and in support are Mary Maynard, Brad Slaven, George Chesebro, Lee Morgan, Lane Bradford, John Gibson and Dee Cooper. Jerry Thomas produced, and Ray Taylor directed.

Joseph O'Donnell's screenplay defers unqualifiedly to the recognized demands of devotees of the genre. Large helpings of outdoor action surround the story of how La Rue eliminates a band of desperadoes who had been trying to swindle ranchers out of their property. Plot calls also for Fuzzy to acquire a siege of amnesia and to engage in prolonged slap-stick antics.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Love from a Stranger"

(Eagle-Lion)

AS a period melodrama set in England at the turn of the century, "Love from a Stranger" succeeds in reproducing, and turning to its advantage, the moral atmosphere of the last gasps of Victorianism. Yet, however much the camera may dwell upon the drawing-room and the family hearth, it all adds up to *mood* against which this tale of a Bluebeard is unfolded.

Perhaps overly faithful in its pace to the cadences of Victorianism, the Philip MacDonald scenario, from a play by Frank Vosper and a story by Agatha Christie, lags noticeably in sketching the introductory scenes wherein Sylvia Sidney is identified as the winner of a 40,000-pound sweepstakes prize and who is enabled, thereby, to embark on a long-desired trip. John Hodiak encounters her, pursues her, woos and wins her as his bride, just as her fiance, John Howard, returns from abroad. But the die is cast, and Howard, crestfallen, yields. Miss Sidney and Hodiak spend an apparently happy honeymoon in seclusion. But a few suspicious hints of Hodiak's designs are sprinkled through the ensuing weeks until, at the moment of execution of his plan for killing his wife, he is unmasked as the celebrated murderer long sought by the police of two continents.

With director Richard Whorf seemingly dependent for the most part on mood, performances are pedestrian. Ann Richards, Isobel Elsom, Ernest Cossart and Philip Tonge aid the histrionics. James J. Geller produced.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 15.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Road to the Big House"

(Screen Guild)

Hollywood, Nov. 11

THE idea that a few years in jail might not be too much to pay for stealing a really important amount of money, if the money could be staked out for post-prison use, may be said to have crossed at least once over lightly the minds of most individuals not natively bogged down under a whopping burden of ready cash. That is the idea taken under study here by Screen-playwright Aubrey Wisberg and traced out to a conclusion quite logical enough to discourage as well as entertain the average crime fan. John Shelton, Ann Doran and Guinn Williams portray the principal characters.

Shelton, a bank clerk with ambitions to give his wife access to luxuries which she distinctly does not crave, steals $200,000, hides it away, goes to prison for his crime, and turns down several offers of leniency conditioned upon his return of the money. His fellow-convicts do their utmost to "squeeze" out of him the secret of his hiding place but he resists. An outside gangster finances a prison break which places him momentarily in his power, but all are apprehended and he is reincarcerated. Having completed his term, he is released, makes his way to a cemetery where he has hidden the money, and is met there by his wife, who tells him she has found it and returned it to the bank. Overhearing this, a gangster who has followed him, to kill him for the money, departs without doing so, leaving the man and wife (who have sacrificed 15 years) penniless to undertake a new life.

Producer-director Walter Colmes and associate producer Selvyn Levinson kept the story constantly to the fore in their filming of the subject.

Running time 74 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, net set.

W. R. W.

Short Subjects

"End of an Empire?"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

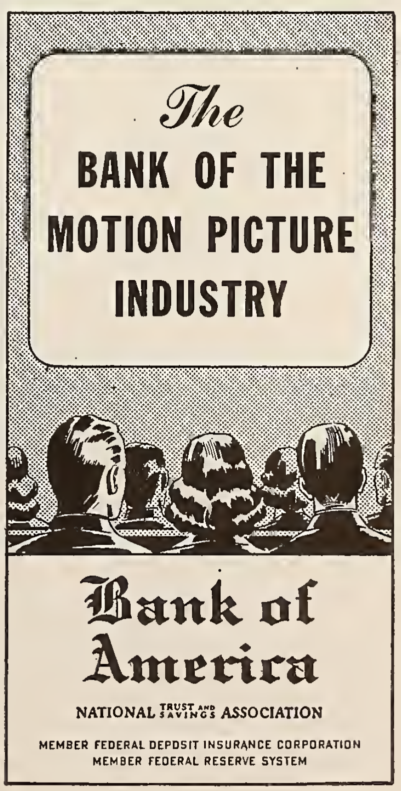
Attempts of the Dutch Government to salvage what it can of its pre-war East Indies Empire, and the Indonesian Republic's struggle to resist domination by the Dutch is a story of international conflict well keyed for presentation by MOT. The film presents both sides of the East Indies dispute.

The camera captures the quaint old-world atmosphere of Holland and the tropic charm of the Far East and audiences should find it rich in entertainment as well as in educational value. Running time, 19 minutes.

"The Big Wash"

(RKO Radio)

A Walt Disney Production, this presents Goofy, a circus caretaker attempting to give elephant Delores a bath. It becomes quite a big job, especially since Delores is in no mood for a washing. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.



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MOTION PICTURE
INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

BRIGHTEST SPOT IN THE WORLD!

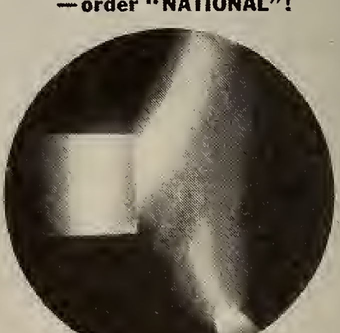
ITS AREA is less than one quarter square inch. It is the most powerful "point source" of light in the world. It is the crater in the tip of an experimental positive "National" High Intensity carbon.

Into this tiny spot is packed the same amount of light which would be emitted by 137,000 brightly burning candles!

This crowding of a terrific amount of light into a small area is a feature of every "National" carbon arc used in movie projection. It is called *intrinsic brilliance.* This is what makes your pictures so bright and pleasing to look at.

Furthermore, the light emitted by "National" High Intensity Projector Carbons is the closest approach to sunlight. It has a continuous spectrum and contains all the colors of the rainbow. This makes color movies glow with rich natural detail. Your theatre patrons like it—their approval shows up in the box office.

When you order projector carbons —order "NATIONAL"!



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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V 62. NO. 94 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1947 TEN CENTS

CED Proposes Retention of Tax 'til 1950's

Advocates Many Changes In Corporate Levies

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12. — Elimination of the federal admission tax in the early 1950's, when temporary war influences on Government expenses have disappeared, is advocated in a special tax study made public today by the Committee for Economic Development.

Although the study said that in the transition toward the long-run system, "attention should be given to urgent reforms in all parts of the tax structure," it specifically recommended elimination of only two

(*Continued on page* 5)

20th-Fox Clearance Cut for Cincinnati

Clearance reductions to aid deluxe subsequent-run theatres, similar to those introduced in Cleveland last September, are ready for enactment in Cincinnati situations, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales managers' conference, here, yesterday.

In Cincinnati, where until now one theatre has had a clear second-run over the entire city, Fox pictures, beginning with "Daisy Kenyon," will be available to eight or more subsequent-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Calendar Year Basis For 20th-Fox Shorts

Twentieth Century-Fox next year will parallel its feature product schedule with a similar calendar-year releasing arrangement for its short subjects, Peter G. Levathes, short subjects sales manager, announced yesterday at the concluding session of a three-day sales conference here.

At the conference, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity, told the division managers that his department would continue "scientific, long-range planning" on all pictures during 1948, a company statement said.

Schlaifer distributed to the division chiefs completed campaigns on forth-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Sweeping Changes in Chicago Releasing Effective Tomorrow

By DIRK COURTENAY

CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—Key men in the offices of distributors and circuits affected by the U. S. Supreme Court's refusal to enjoin the Jackson Park Theatre decision here are in continuous huddles interpreting the Chicago decree and deciding future policy, to become effective Friday.

It is known that the principal provision under discussion deals with subsequent runs following Loop playdates which are now limited to two weeks in Balaban and Katz houses. In that releases must be made available to outlying theatres 15 days after the beginning of a Loop run it is believed that the entire pattern of bookings will revert back to a zone system and that more houses will be placed in an 'A' category.

Under the decree, double bills are prohibited for at least some of the larger South Side theatres competing with and playing films ahead of the Jackson Park. Consequently it is thought by exhibitors here that double

(*Continued on page* 4)

Says Hughes Had Gift for L. of D.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Howard Hughes, producer of "The Outlaw," authorized Bennett E. Meyers, retired major-general, to offer the Legion of Decency $150,000 if Mayor William O'Dwyer could be prevailed upon to permit showing of the controversial film in New York City, Meyers charged here today in testimony before a Senate war investigating subcommittee.

[In New York yesterday, a spokesman for the Legion of Decency said nothing was known of such an offer at the Legion's offices. Mayor O'Dwy-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Per Piece Licenses Asked of ASCAP

That a number of exhibitors in many sections of the country have sent written requests to the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers requesting music licenses on a "per piece" basis was confirmed here yesterday by officials of the Society.

The officials said that Ascap will comply with the request in accord-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Sears, Kelly Confer With Boston Bank

Boston, Nov. 12.—Gradwell Sears, United Artists president, and Arthur Kelly, executive vice-president, conferred here today with officials of the First National Bank of Boston, including Serge Semenenko, vice-president, who is active in film financing.

It was reported that the discussions concerned new financing for United Artists, probably including the $5,000,000 revolving fund for financing of UA producers which the company has been seeking for some months. However, the outcome of the meeting was not disclosed.

Appeal Briefs Due Dec. 22

Principal parties to the Government's New York anti-trust case against distributors have been given until Dec. 22 to file appeal briefs with the U. S. Supreme Court, which is scheduled to hear the case in Washington on Jan. 12.

The distributor appellants yesterday received from Washington copies of the record of the case to date, consisting of about 3,000 pages, including testimony in New York Federal Court, reproduction of about 200 exhibits entered in the case and a supplement giving an account of the appellate proceedings.

Actually, the Justice Department and the companies have completed at

(*Continued on page* 4)

Allied Will File In NY Equity Case

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12. — Allied States will definitely file a brief as *amicus curiae* in the New York anti-trust case, according to Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel.

Myers said that the main question still undecided was whether the brief would be filed in Allied's name or in the name of the Conference of Independent Exhibitors, of which Allied is the principal member. He expected the brief to be before the court well before Christmas, he said.

Final details will be worked out shortly, Myers said, since ample time must be left for printing the petition and brief.

Fuller Cites Trust Danger In Tax Plan

Report Weighs Reprisal By U. S. Independents

By PETER BURNUP

BIRMINGHAM, England, Nov. 12. —Official report of Walter R. Fuller, general secretary of the British Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, on his recent trip to America, points out that American independent producers might threaten to invoke U. S. anti-trust laws in the event that a settlement proposal emanating from the current Allport-Eady discussions of the *ad valorem* tax impasse appears invidious to the independents, it was disclosed for the first time here today at a meeting of the CEA general council.

Two additional hitherto undisclosed Fuller-report items were also re-

(*Continued on page* 5)

'IA' Bid for Raises To Be Made Today

IATSE representatives will present today demands for wage increases for some 6,000 exchange employes throughout the country at a meeting here with representatives of 10 distributing companies, Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, disclosed here yesterday. Under contracts covering workers in 32 exchange cities, wages are subject to reopening on Dec. 1, although the pacts will continue in effect until Nov. 30, 1948.

Walsh also announced appointment of a three-man committee, consisting of assistant international vice-president Thomas J. Shea, international vice-president Louise Wright and in-

(*Continued on page* 5)

AP Video Coverage Starts in Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—First Associated Press television newsreel unit has begun operations here as a part of regular news coverage by the Washington bureau. It is the first unit of several which Associated Press is now establishing to provide world-wide newsreel service for television stations that are AP members. Coverage of the Washington scene will be

(*Continued on page* 5)

Personal Mention

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists president, and ARTHUR W. KELLY, executive vice-president, will return to New York today from Boston.

●

WILLIAM HEINEMAN, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal's J. Arthur Rank unit, will return here next week from an extended Montana hunting trip.

●

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Brothers' Eastern division sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, will return here from Gloversville, N. Y., today.

●

JACQUES KOPFSTEIN, executive vice-president of Astor Pictures, has returned to New York from a Southern business trip.

●

O. S. PERKINS, New York district manager of Altec Service, and MRS. PERKINS are celebrating their 17th wedding anniversary.

●

JACK GOLDBERG, president of Herald Pictures, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

●

HARRY BRAND, 20th Century-Fox studio publicity director, left New York for Hollywood yesterday.

●

WESLEY RUGGLES left on the *S.S. Queen Mary* yesterday for England.

Presidential Award To Goldwyn Friday

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Samuel Goldwyn will be presented with the Presidential Certificate of Merit for his war service in a ceremony to be held at the Pentagon on Friday, the Motion Picture Association disclosed here today. Kenneth Royall, Secretary of the Army, will make the presentation. Afterwards, MPA president Eric Johnston wil give a luncheon for Goldwyn at MPA headquarters.

Among others expected at attend are Postmaster General Robert Hannegan; Attorney General Tom Clark; W. Stuart Symington, Secretary of the Air Force; John L. Sullivan, Secretary of the Navy; White House aide Maj.-Gen. Harry Vaughn; Gael Sullivan, executive director of the Democratic national committee; Oscar Ewing, Federal Security Administrator, and Edwin W. Pauley, special assistant to the Secretary of the Army.

Gebhart Named N. J. Allied Business Head

Albert Gebhart, former Paramount salesman in New Jersey, succeeds E. Thornton Kelley as business manager of Allied of New Jersey, it was disclosed here yesterday by Irving Dollinger, board chairman.

Gebhart will take over on Monday. Kelley resigned two weeks ago.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

SO distributors are not firing salesmen? In one key city overnight from New York, this is the record of recent weeks:

One major has discharged a salesman in its employ 27 years.

A second major has let out a salesman on the payroll 20 years.

A third has eliminated a salesman who was good enough to draw salary for 19 years.

■

Some distributors are not trying to sell by telephone?

In a second key city overnight from New York, the practice is standard at exchanges of all majors with perhaps two exceptions.

■

Taking it as "further proof" of the "to-hell-with-the-independent exhibitor" attitude of producer-distributors, Allied of the Rocky Mountain States asserts several companies have pulled their salesmen off the road for 60 to 90 days in the Cleveland, St. Louis and Kansas City territories; and concludes Denver is next if the plan works. "That will mean a lot of film salesmen fired and you will either have to buy product by mail or make regular trips into the Denver exchange offices," concludes this Allied unit.

In the face of the known drive of all distributors to liquidate their product faster in these days of British tax and a domestic market no longer as lush as it once was, the indicated facts stack up as decidely peculiar.

■ ■

Andy Smith never said so, of course. But the near-60 per cent increase in the 20th-Fox program for 1948 says it for him. What it says is theatres will require more celluloid because their product turnover will be greater. Therefore, 20th-Fox itself will deliver 23, plus four from Alex Korda, plus three from Eddie Alperson's Alson Prod. Piled on this 30 will be 18 B's—six from Sol Wurtzel, as many from Eddie Small, three from Frank Seltzer, former press agent who thought better of it; and three from Sam Baerowitz.

To the comment, "The B's are coming back," there is that answering crack, "Who says they'd ever gone away?"

■ ■

Just how successful are efforts at cutting production costs? Here are two views, both from responsible sources:

1—The lines of easy resistance are being pursued. Young and promising talent—acting and writing—is being reduced almost to the point of extinction. This puts the future in the hands of old hands which are frequently tired hands, the view being the old hands eliminate all the hazards.

2—Nothing of an appreciable nature will develop until the dissipation inherent in loose indecisive preparation of story and script is sharply reduced, if not eliminated, and shooting schedules are pruned from 70-day levels to 50 days or less.

■ ■

"The Fabulous Texan" is about carpet-baggers using the state police as a front in the Lone Star state immediately after the close of the Civil War. The police are bedecked in uniforms and hats that bear a striking resemblance to regulation Union soldier issue. They are tough and calloused, beating and killing people at will and practicing full-scale arson. All of this is in the sweet cause of law and order and reminds of Hitler's state police. Nevertheless, it is the policy—those accepted protectors of American citizenry and property.

J. Parnell Thomas won't like it.

■

RKO Radio made "None but the Lonely Heart," which Mrs. Lela Rogers found Communistic at the hearings of the Un-American Activities Commitee in Washington.

RKO did not make, but will release, "The Fugitive," John Ford's film dealing with religious persecution.

Mrs. Rogers could find this very confusing.

■ ■

A new note in intellectual huckstering showed up in front of the Mayfair Theatre yesterday where the tall young man in uniform attracted customers to "Gentleman's Agreement" with:

"A possible Academy Award winner."

■ ■

What with "The Green Dolphin Street" and "Cass Timberlane," Metro seems to have launched its Lana Turner Season.

MPF Trustees Will Meet Next Month

Motion Picture Foundation organizing leaders set a date and place for the national trustee convention at a meeting held here yesterday. Although formal announcement of when and where the convention is to be held will not be forthcoming for a few days, it was learned unofficially that the event will take place early in December.

New York has been mentioned previously as the city most likely to be selected.

Kusell Reports on SRO Distribution

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—With the recent opening of two new branches in Canada and the expansion of sales forces in seven cities, Selznick Releasing Organization has completed the initial phase of a plan to build up its distribution set-up, Milton S. Kusell, SRO sales chief, reported today to a company policy-making meeting in progress here. New offices, with Charles Weiner, former head of the Minneapolis branch, in charge, are in Winnipeg and Montreal.

Other executives participating in the conferences are David O. Selznick, Daniel T. O'Shea, E. L. Scanlon and Paul MacNamara. Kusell, upon his return to New York, will give a full report to Neil Agnew, SRO president.

Greenblatt to New York

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—Arthur Greenblatt has been appointed to an executive sales position by Screen Guild's general sales manager, F. A. Bateman, and will leave here this weekend to open a sales office in New York.

Services for Mueller

CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—Funeral services for William J. Mueller, veteran exhibitor, will be held at Concordia Cemetery here tomorrow. Mueller, who died Monday, was a partner in the operation of the Alamo and Famous theatres here.

Olian of Warner Bros.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—Funeral services for Martin Olian, Warner studio employee for 17 years and purchasing executive, were held here today at Malinow and Simon's. Olian, who died Saturday night, leaves a widow and daughter.

T. A. Lorch, 68

CAMARILLO, CAL., Nov. 12.—Theodore A. Lorch, veteran character actor of motion pictures and stage died here yesterday of a heart ailment. He was 68 years old and was born in Springfield, Ill.

AFM Picks Counsel

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—American Federation of Musicians has retained the law firm of Gerhard P. Van Arkel and Henry Kaiser to represent it.

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For CHRISTMAS

"MY WILD IRISH ROSE"!!!

Such McNificence! 16 *songs and color by*

TECHNICOLOR

starring **DENNIS MORGAN**

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DAVID BUTLER · Produced by
WILLIAM JACOBS · with
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Screen Play by Peter Milne • Based upon a Book by Rita Olcott • Musical Numbers Created and Directed by LeRoy Prinz • Musical Numbers Orchestrated and Conducted by Ray Heindorf

News Briefs . . .

SCHUYLER BEATTY, who was with Paramount for 17 years, joins Selznick Releasing Organization as representative in the Albany territory, and Douglas McLeod has been named representative in Boston. He was formerly with Eagle-Lion and before that was with Paramount.

UK Film Writers Assail Washington Probe Methods

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12. — British Screen Writers Association's executive board will present to a membership meeting in London on Friday a resolution "deploring" the proceedings of the House Un-American Activities Committee and extending an "official welcome to all writers who have been attacked," it was disclosed here by the Hollywood Screen Writers Guild.

Set Food Train Depots For N. Y. Collections

New York City schools, police stations and fire houses will serve as depots for receiving donations for the Friendship Food Train, it is announced by the FFT local committee comprised of film industry, railroad and municipal representatives. Committee has directed, however, that monetary contributions be sent preferably made out to the Friendship Train and addressed in care of Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

Albany Variety Club has voted to purchase $100 worth of food for contribution to the Train, which will arrive at the New York state capital on Nov. 17.

Rudy Berger Transfers Office to Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Rudy Berger, M-G-M Southern sales manager, has transferred his headquarters to Washington from New Orleans. John S. Allen, field assistant to Berger, who formerly had his headquarters in Washington, now is located in Dallas.

Universal Transfers Ost To New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 12.—C. O. Ost has been transferred here from Atlanta to become branch manager for Universal. E. L. O'Neill, who formerly held the position, has been sent to the company's Atlanta office.

$1,500,000 for 'Stars'

The "Night of Stars" benefit will pass the $1,500,000 mark next Monday at Madison Square Garden here with its 14th annual performance, Nathan Straus, chairman, predicts. Proceeds will go to the United Jewish Appeal. During the 14 years of its existence, "Night of Stars" has each year grossed well over $100,000.

$12,549 for "Agreement"

The Mayfair Theatre, here, on Tuesday, grossed $12,549 for the opening of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Gentleman's Agreement," 20th-Fox reports. Company said the receipts exceeded by almost $5,000 all previous records at the house.

'Best Years' to Bijou

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" will return to Broadway next Thursday with a roadshow engagement at the Bijou Theatre, the Goldwyn office here announces. Picture played 39 weeks at the Astor here.

Selznick to Stage 'Romeo'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—David O. Selznick plans to back a stage production of "Romeo and Juliet," starring Jennifer Jones and Louis Jourdan who will also star in Selznick's Technicolor film of the Shakespeare play.

Monogram Reelects Board

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—All members of Monogram's board of directors were re-elected at the annual meeting held here today. Election to Monogram board entails the same duties in connection with Allied Artists Productions.

M-G-M Studio Manager

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—W. W. Spencer was appointed M-G-M studio manager today, succeeding the late J. G. Mayer. Spencer has been with M-G-M since 1924, and was Mayer's assistant for 12 years.

House Unit Meets On Contempt Vote

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The full House Committee on Un-American Activities will meet tomorrow to vote on contempt citations for the 10 witnesses who refused to answer questions on their political affiliations during the recent hearings here, according to Robert Stripling, chief investigator. The citations have been voted only by the sub-committee which conducted the hearings. Committee members approved the citations during the week by telephone and telegraph, but it was learned yesterday that they must meet in person to approve.

Meanwhile it was indicated by House Speaker Joseph Martin that when he receives the recommendations for contempt citations, it would then be "mandatory" for him to certify them.

Per Piece Licenses

(*Continued from page 1*)

ance with the Federal consent decree under which it operates and which makes per piece licensing mandatory upon the Society when requested by a licensee.

It was learned recently that Allied States had evolved a plan by which its members would request the per piece licenses from Ascap in order to test the method. Exhibitors throughout the country regard the per piece licensing method as impracticable. However, the Department of Justice recently declined to take action on behalf of exhibitor petitioners against Ascap's 300 per cent increase in blanket licensing fees on the grounds that the exhibitors had not utilized the per piece licensing method of the decree.

Presumably, Allied will attempt to demonstrate to the Department by the tests that the method of obtaining licenses only for the Ascap controlled music actually used is worthless to exhibitors.

Ascap would not disclose the terms it would set for such licenses.

20th-Fox Shorts

(*Continued from page 1*)

coming pictures, including some which will not be released for six months or more. He said that during 1948 there would be an augmented policy of territorial saturation premieres.

Levathes announced that next year the company will release 20 single reelers, produced by Movietone, 22 Terrytoons, and, of course, 104 issues of Movietone News. He also announced the continuation of 13 two-reel March of Time specials.

Edmund Reek, Movietone producer, also addressed the meeting, and Paul Terry pointed out that while some cartoon producers have decreased the number of releases, Terrytoon in 1948 will increase from 20 to 22.

Clearance Cut

(*Continued from page 1*)

runs, day and date, with the house that formerly had an exclusive second-run. Other territories are scheduled to get the plan early next year.

The plan for improvement of runs and clearances was first announced by Smith at the end of September in Cleveland. At the time, he said the company stands ready to extend the reductions to other areas. Clearances introduced in Cleveland were from the prevailing 35 days to 21 days.

Increased Prices Opposed in Montana

BILLINGS, MONT., Nov. 12.—Montana Theatre Owners Association has gone on record as being opposed to roadshows at advanced admissions, and has agreed to go along with Ascap until Jan. 31, but passed a resolution to assist in raising funds for the test case against Ascap sponsored by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Ow[illegible] These actions were taken at a MT[illegible] general membership meeting held here.

The group also voted against special collections in theatres, but members said they would cooperate in other ways in community benefit drives. Collections and trailers for them are taboo, however.

A large delegation declared they will attend the PCCITO convention in San Francisco next April. The Montana group is a member of the PCCITO.

Clarence J. Severson of Wolf Point, Mont., president of the MTOA, announced that its next convention will be held in Great Falls in May.

Chicago Releasing

(*Continued from page 1*)

and triple-feature programs might be abolished since more better grade pictures will be made available faster. They also believe that outlying business will improve as the "little" houses will get the business that had been going to Balaban & Katz houses which had the newer pictures at higher prices. RKO and independent Loop houses are not affected. Due to an oversight, RKO theatres were not named defendants.

Operators are elated at the elimination of clearances but are awaiting notice of distributor rental terms that might offset the benefits of earlier playing time.

Smaller distributors are looking ahead to getting Loop runs in consequence of the limited engagements of major product.

It is believed the decision will put an end to advanced admission-price pictures for the most part. Two are current here, "Forever Amber" and "Unconquered," and both have played more than two weeks. Plans for these have not been determined as yet.

Appeal Briefs

(*Continued from page 1*)

least first drafts of the briefs to be submitted to the high court. The Department, as well as the distributors, is an appellant.

In the briefs, all parties are expected to elaborate on their assignments of errors, the documents which they filed with the high court originally in which they cited instances of alleged inequities and legal flaws in the New York Federal Court's decision.

'Citizen Kane' Suit

Charging that RKO Radio's 1941 release, "Citizen Kane" plagiarized his 1936 story, "Imperial Hearst," author Ferdinand Lundberg yesterday filed suit in New York Federal Court against the company, producer Orson Welles and writer Herman J. Mankiewicz, asking for an injunction to have all prints of the picture impounded and an accounting of profits.

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Washington, D. C. Faces a 2% Levy

Washington, Nov. 12.—Tax-raising plans of District of Columbia commisioners for next year include a two per cent sales tax, it was disclosed. Any D. of C. tax program must get approval of Congress, which turned down a sales tax at its last session.

CED Advocates

(*Continued from page* 1)

excise taxes next year—those on communications and transportation. The admission tax was not mentioned in the 1948 program.

Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston is a member of the CED research and policy committee, which offered the study. Advertising executive Raymond Rubicam is chairman, and other members include C. Scott Fletcher, president of Encyclopedia Britannica Films, Inc., and Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak.

Unlike the recent report of the Magill committee, the CED study bitterly attacks the excise tax method of raising revenue and proposes that by the early 1950's only three excises remain—those on alcoholic beverages, tobacco and gasoline. Instead, the CED favors reliance on the individual income tax for most Federal revenue. It proposes various reductions in individual income taxes and a system whereby persons with incomes which fluctuate sharply from year to year can average their taxes. Such a system has long been sought by film industry persons whose incomes fluctuate yearly.

The CED favors many reforms in the corporate tax structure, including some outlined in the Magill committee report. Among the reforms advocated for enactment in 1948 are a start toward elimination of the double tax on corporate dividends and lengthening the carry-forward period for business losses from two to five years while reducing the carry-back period from two years to one.

Among proposals recommended to be reached by the early 1950's are a sharp cut in the standard rate of corporate profit taxation, elimination of the present tax on inter-corporate dividends and the penalty tax on the filing of consolidated returns, and putting the burden of proof on the Treasury in applying the penalty tax against accumulation of excessive profits.

The CED said that its tax program sought to "minimize the repressive effects of the tax burden on the growth of productivity and lighten the tax load on the lowest income groups as far as possible." It said it was putting particular emphasis on the reduction of excises as "the only way in which substantial tax relief can be obtained by the lowest income groups."

AP Video Service

(*Continued from page* 1)

integrated with films produced by participating stations, just as news and newsphotos are now exchanged among member papers.

A London unit is being formed and will be operating in time to cover the wedding of Princess Elizabeth, the forthcoming four-power meeting of Foreign Ministers in London, and other events in the United Kingdom.

Review

"Nicholas Nickleby"

(*Ealing Studios—Prestige—U-I*)

WITH the British wielding the cinematic pen, one may rest assured of a faithful translation of Charles Dickens to the screen. This J. Arthur Rank production unit, following Cineguild's outstanding job with "Great Expectations," has not quite hit the standard set by the latter, but, nevertheless, comes up with an above-average and faithful performance in "Nicholas Nickleby." Patrons of "art" theatres will probably respond most generously to this Michael Balcon production. While Sir Cedric Hardwicke as the cruel uncle is the only "name" of note for American audiences, the cast itself is an outstanding combination from both stage and screen.

Recapturing the flavor of Dickens' carping social criticism and the singular characters who people his books, the film recounts the trials of Nicholas, portrayed by Derek Bond, as he strives to save his widowed mother and innocent sister from penury. A strongly moralistic tale in which, typically enough for Dickens, Good and Evil are sharply defined, the film metes out the just rewards and punishments as virtue triumphs, the family is saved and the evil uncle is brought to judgment for his lustful money-grubbing. Also in the cast are: Stanley Holloway, Bernard Miles, Sally Ann Howes, Alfred Drayton, Fay Compton and Aubrey Woods, to name only a few who breathe life into the long catalogue of Dickensian characters. Cavalcanti directed, from a screenplay by John Dighton, with John Croydon as associate producer.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. For December release.

IRVING KAPLAN

Fuller Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

vealed, one that the so-called Alexander King plan for American film companies to give a blanket annual guarantee of 4,000,000 pounds ($16,000,000) for British films in the U. S. is completely hopeless, and the other that F. W. Allport, Motion Picture Association European representative, was brought into the current London tax negotiations at Fuller's suggestion.

The CEA council, which gave Fuller a vote of thanks for his efforts toward breaking the tax impasse, displayed enthusiasm over the prophecy in the 5,000-word *ad valorem* tax report that a solution will be found before the year's end.

The report further gives an overall picture of American exhibition and points out that there is no possibility of compelling American independent exhibitors to show British pictures against their will. It emphasizes that efforts in that direction could bring about invocation of U. S. anti-trust laws. The report also points out that Sir Alexander Korda, through 20th Century-Fox, and Associated British Producers Corp., through Warner Brothers, already have guaranteed American distribution of British pictures. Further, it is held that Fuller's non-mention of Rank in this connection suggests that Rank's emissaries are responsible for the King blanket guarantee proposal.

Fuller states that there is definitely no evidence of "conspiracy" to prevent American screenings of British films, and dismisses proposals made that Americans deal with British film showings on a barter system.

Meanwhile, it is understood here that a further meeting between Sir Wilfred Eady and Allport awaits British Treasury officials' examination of plans proposed and Allport's receipt of a further mandate from the U. S. from MPA president Eric Johnston. It is expected, however, that another meeting will take place before the weekend.

Hughes

(*Continued from page* 1)

er said he had no recollection of anything of the kind having been discussed with him.]

The $150,000, Meyers told the committee in amplifying testimony given yesterday, was to be in addition to a $100,000 fee from the producer for Meyers' services in interceding with Mayor O'Dwyer on behalf of the film.

Hughes has denied that he ever made the $100,000 offer to Meyers to get the exhibition ban lifted, but has acknowledged consulting the former Army officer about the ban.

It was learned yesterday in New York that District Attorney Frank S. Hogan was preparing to open his own inquiry into charges that Bennet E. Meyers had cited $100,000 in approaching Benjamin Fielding, city license commissioner at the time, to urge relaxation of the ban on showing the film.

Hogan was preparing to check the reported offer, while informed observers close to the district attorney's office indicated that a Grand Jury investigation was in the offing if an actual bribe offer were made. Myers' testimony before a Senate committee, it was pointed out, did not indicate whether the offer was made, but merely that Hughes authorized him to make it.

Dalton Plan Skips UK Admission Tax

London, Nov. 12. — Despite the fact that Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton's anti-inflationary budget is directly solely at cutting personal expenditures by raising taxes on personal items, Britain's entertainment tax has not been increased in the new budget.

However, the film industry generally has been hit by a new ordinance allowing only a 50 per cent tax deduction for advertising expenditures on income tax returns. Hitherto all such expenditures were deductable.

'IA' Bid

(*Continued from page* 1)

ternational representative Joseph D. Basson, to present the union position.

Since exchange locals are subject to supervision by the general 'IA,' Walsh explained, decision to conduct joint negotiations was reached after a poll of all "B" (film exchange) back room and "F" (front office) locals affiliated with the 'IA.'

Hearing Continued

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—With $20,000,000 of permanent studio construction in the balance, a Superior Court hearing on a petition by six construction firms to compel the Carpenters' Brotherhood to perform necesary labor despite the studio strike was continued until tomorrow.

FWC Strike Spreads

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 12.—Though striking IATSE projectionists today spread their walkout to 13 additional Fox West Coast theatres in an effort to gain first-run wage scales, all 25 FWC houses affected continued to operate with company staffs.

90%
OF
HOLLYWOOD'S
FIRST-RUN
HOUSES
HAVE
INSTALLED
"The VOICE OF THE THEATRE"
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When "the dawn comes up like thunder"...

HE'S at his console—the re-recording mixer—weaving skeins of sound into the picture's pattern . . . skillfully matching sound to sight, mood for mood.

Under his sensitive control, dialogue and music and special effects are expertly proportioned, delicately balanced to round out the realism and drama of the scene.

To fulfill this essential contribution to the picture, the re-recording mixer requires creative understanding of the director's desires . . . a sense of the dramatic . . . a feeling for mood . . . and the high order of faithful sound reproduction and re-recording he gets from the large and versatile family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 95 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1947 TEN CENTS

Heavy Rise in Music Rates In 'Piece' Plan

Fees Would Go Up with Ascap's Operating Costs

Indicating a substantial increase in music public performance rates when music is licensed on a per-piece basis, as requested by some exhibitors, an official of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers admitted here yesterday that this type of licensing would probably triple the society's administrative costs.

Under the present blanket contracts with exhibitors, Ascap figures operating expenses at about 20 per cent.

The organization's spokesman said he believes the per-piece manner of licensing would mean a separate contract with an exhibitor for each pic-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Para. Nets 25 Millions

Paramount net profits for the nine months ended Oct. 4, after charges and taxes are estimated at $25,512,000 including a $4,336,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries. Earnings for the first nine months last year were estimated at $33,877,000, including a $6,031,000 share of undistributed earnings of non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Paramount estimates its earnings for the third quarter ended Oct. 4, at $8,105,000 after charges and taxes. This includes $1,147,000 representing Paramount's net interest in combined

(*Continued on page* 7)

Reagan Presiding at Paramount Meet

Kansas City, Nov. 13.—Plans for the release of Paramount product during the remainder of this year and the early part of 1948 are being discussed at a two-day meeting being conducted here by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president, today and tomorrow, at the Muehlebach Hotel.

The meeting, called for the West-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Classics Completes National Set-up; 14 New Films in '48

National distribution set-up of Film Classics is complete, it was revealed here yesterday by Joseph Bernhard, president.

"We now own and operate 26 exchanges, covering every area in the U. S., except Oklahoma City," Bernhard said, "and that will be serviced through our Dallas branch.

"It is my opinion," Bernhard continued," that 26 exchanges are fully adequate to blanket the country. Modern distribution no longer requires 31 exchanges. A complete job of film selling can now be done with fewer exchanges at less expense and without overlapping of territories."

Bernhard also revealed that Film

(*Continued on page* 3)

Report Liberty Got Paramount Shares

Financial circles yesterday said that the 135,000 shares of Paramount treasury common issued by the company last month and currently valued at $3,000,000 was for formal acquisition of Liberty Films. Closing of the deal was delayed until last month when the Treasury Department ruled the exchange of Paramount and Liberty stock was a capital gains transaction.

Paramount officials who earlier had said issuance of the 135,000 shares

(*Continued on page* 3)

Film Heads Ready For Call to London

Company presidents or, in a few cases, their top executive alternates, are prepared to accompany Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, to London to effect a final agreement in settlement of the British film tax, in the event that such a trip becomes necessary.

There still is some expectation that negotiations with the British government now being conducted by F. W. Allport, MPA European manager, may be culminated without need for the presence in London of the industry heads. However, should developments make the trip advisable, about 10 top executives would accompany Johnston and his aides to London. Donald Nelson, James Mulvey and Mervin Faris of SIMPP also would make the trip.

Explore U. A. Financing

Exploratory discussions concerning United Artists financing reportedly were taken up here yesterday by Gradwell L. Sears, president; Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president, and officials of Bankers Trust Co., following conversations which both had with First National of Boston, in Boston,

(*Continued on page* 7)

Goldwyn Scores ITOA's Bid for Dual-Bill Films

Dalton Resigns as British Finance Head

London, Nov. 13.—The resignation of Hugh Dalton as Chancellor of Exchequer was accepted today by Prime Minister Attlee and Sir Stafford Cripps had Dalton's office added to his present duties. Dalton had been in negotiations with American film industry representatives on a settlement of the British film tax. His resignation was occasioned by advance publication in a British newspaper of information on his budget

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday assailed the recent support of double bills by Independent Theatre Owners of New York and charged that ITOA's action, if representative of exhibitor thinking generally, robs the industry of 10 years' progress.

Goldwyn addressed a luncheon-meeting of ITOA at the Hotel Astor here, which was attended by distribution executives and representatives of Allied States, Theatre Owners of America, circuit owners, and others.

Goldwyn also defended advanced admissions for "The Best Years of Our Lives." He offered to reimburse any exhibitor present who failed to make a profit on the picture. He berated gangster pictures and deplored

(*Continued on page* 6)

Seeks Studio Strike Link To Executives

Kearns Asks If Company Heads Prolonged Dispute

Washington, Nov. 13.—Whether film company top executives are personally responsible for prolonging the Hollywood studio strike is one of the things which Rep. Carroll D. Kearns will attempt to determine at a meeting early next month with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and company presidents.

Kearns, who is chairman of a House labor sub-committee which has been investigating the West Coast labor dispute, feels the companies have some responsibility for the length of the strike but has not yet satisfied himself whether this is the fault of the presidents personally or of subordinates acting on their own initiative.

Other statements by the Pennsyl-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Rentals Must Rise: Smith

Loss of income from foreign market and high production costs must be offset by increased domestic revenue in order to permit continued delivery of "quality product," Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, told the company's division sales managers yesterday.

"The time is here when we must make our profit out of domestic distribution only," he said at the final session of the division managers conference here.

"There is no law that I know of

(*Continued on page* 7)

RKO Board States Faith in Schary

Hollywood, Nov. 13. — "RKO Radio's board of directors who are, without exception, unalterably opposed to Communism, have adopted a company policy not to engage the services of any known Communist," according to a letter to stockholders signed by Floyd Odlum, chairman, and N. Peter Rathvon, president.

The statement spoke of "unwarranted attacks" on Dore Schary, pro-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Personal Mention

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox director of advertising and publicity, leaves New York for Washington today to attend the White House Photographers dinner tomorrow.

•

William A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, was in Gloversville, N. Y., yesterday with **David Miller**, U-I district manager; and **Eugene Vogel**, Albany manager.

•

Maurice N. Wolf, assistant to **Henderson M. Richey**, M-G-M exhibitor-public relations head, will talk next week before business men's clubs in Indianapolis, Muncie, Richmond and Lebanon, Ind.

•

Henry A. Linet, Universal-International Eastern advertising manager, leaves here today for a week's trip to Nassau.

•

Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor-public relations head, is due back today from a Midwestern trip.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, is in Washington today.

•

Edward L. Walton, Republic assistant general sales manager, is now in Des Moines, and will visit Chicago prior to his return to New York.

•

James V. O'Gara, Republic Eastern division manager, is on a Midwest trip.

•

Harry Cohn, president of Columbia, is here from the Coast.

Heiber Named E-L District Manager

Hollywood, Nov. 13.—Edward Heiber has been named to the post of Chicago district manager, of Eagle-Lion, from which Max Roth recently resigned, by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L distribution vice-president.

Heiber, who assumes his new duties immediately, has been with Universal in executive sales posts since he entered the industry in 1919. He was branch manager in Washington, Detroit and Chicago, and for the past year headed the Kansas City district.

Resigns Buffalo Post

Buffalo, Nov. 13.—Elmer F. Lux, councilman-elect here, has resigned as local RKO Radio branch manager and is reported planning to head an organization to represent exhibitors in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Set $200,000 Ad Budget

Hollywood, Nov. 13.—An advertising appropriation of $200,000 on Allied Artists' "Song of My Heart" has been set, Louis S. Lifton, advertising-publicity head, announces.

News Briefs . . .

ADOLPH Zukor, chairman of the Paramount board, and George Jessel, 20th Century-Fox actor-producer, will be awarded scrolls of honor by the Picture Pioneers at the organization's eighth annual dinner on Nov. 19 at the Plaza Hotel, here.

Jack Cohn, president of the Pioneers, stated that Zukor's is for "outstanding achievements and monumental contributions towards building the industry," Jessel's citation is "in recognition of his outstanding service as an 'Ambassador of Good Will'."

Planes Bring Delayed Food To Friendship Train Daily

A shipment of canned milk from Los Angeles which missed the departure of the Friendship Train arrived at Newark airport last night in a California-Eastern air-freighter. The airline has agreed to carry, without charge, 6,000 pounds of delayed foodstuffs for the train each day from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, St. Louis, Cleveland and Chicago.

Altec Plans Meetings and Receptions for Anniversary

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, Altec Service plans a series of events for the first week of December.

Meetings for district and branch managers are scheduled for Dec. 1-3; a dinner for the Altec board will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Dec. 3; motion picture press and industry guests will be invited to a reception on Dec. 4, and a luncheon for Altec employes in the New York area will be held at the Essex House on Dec. 5.

Golden to Speak to AMPA On Foreign Film Situation

Nathan Golden, motion picture consultant of the Department of Commerce, will arrive here from Washington next Thursday, Nov. 20, to address the monthly luncheon of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, at Town Hall. His subject will be "The Cinema, International Dilemma." Also, Theodore Smith, of the Motion Picture Association, will talk on "American Pictures All Over the World." Dave Blum, director of international publicity for M-G-M, will preside.

Industry Hard Hit by Strife In India, Says Kennebeck

India's troubled political situation has badly affected the American film business there, Frank V. Kennebeck, United Artists general manager in India, declared in a home office interview yesterday. Kennebeck has just arrived here for conferences.

The rioting and looting in northern India recently became so severe that the company closed down its Lahore office altogether, he asserted. The overall decline of business since the strife has been about 35 to 40 per cent, he said, but added that business is still better than the pre-war level.

Fabian Meets with Exhibitors To Map FJP Fund-Raising

Plans for the exhibitor campaign in the 1947 fund-raising drive of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York were mapped yesterday at a meeting at the office of Si Fabian, amusement division chairman.

Among those present were: Samuel Rinzler, Edward Rugoff, Harry Brandt and Edward Schreiber. Later in the day, Fabian met with Ben Sherman and Charles O'Reilly.

MGM Winners to Coast

Hollywood, Nov. 13.—Five M-G-M short subject supervisors in the field will arrive here on Saturday to spend a week at the studio as guests of Fred Quimby, short subject executive. The five were recently announced as winners in a sales contest over the past year, and include: J. L. Stanton, Atlanta; G. M. Batmeister, Des Moines; F. W. Chrysler, Detroit; Edward Richter, New York-New Jersey; H. W. Schmidt, San Francisco.

Norman in New Post

Donald A. Norman, for four years a member of NBC's national spot sales department, has been named sales manager of WNBC, by James M. Gaines, manager of the station. He replaces William O. Tilenius, who resigned to join John Blair and Co. Norman joined NBC in San Francisco as an account executive, then moved to Hollywood as spot sales manager of the Western division, moving to New York in Feb., 1945.

Writers Elect Here

Officers were inducted at a meeting of the new Eastern Screen Writers Association. Dudley Hale, writer at RKO Pathe, was elected president, replacing Newton Meltzer who was temporary chairman. John Davenport and Newton Meltzer, free-lance writers, are vice-presidents, Richard Koch is secretary, and Grace Goodman, of Films, Inc., will act as treasurer.

Realart Aids Cancer

The Damon Runyon Memorial Fund will receive a percentage of the national gross from "Butch Minds the Baby" and "Tight Shoes," through an arrangement between Walter Winchell and Realart, distributor of the two films, which will open at the Gotham here on Saturday.

Resigns Publicity Post

Omaha, Nov. 13.—Allan Kohan, head of advertising and publicity for R. D. Goldberg Theatres, has resigned to enter business for himself.

Polls Admissions Advance

Patrons of two Walter Reade theatres in Perth Amboy, and three in Morristown, are being polled this week to determine whether they would pay advance admission prices to see "Unconquered" and "Life With Father." While inconclusive with respect to the general outcome, results of the first day's balloting showed a 50-50 split.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATIO

14th WEEK! SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
HELD OVER!
RED SKELTON
IN M-G-M's
'MERTON OF THE MOVIES
IN PERSON
BETTY BRUCE
June RICHMOND
GAUDSMITH BROS.
RED BUTTONS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. and J. Arthur Rank present
JOHN MILLS • MARTHA SCOTT • PATRICIA ROC
in JAMES HILTON'S
So Well Remembered

ALAN LADD • DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON • LLOYD NOLAN
in "WILD HARVEST"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
THE KING COLE TRIO
CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA!
RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO presents
MAURICE CHEVALIER
in RENÉ CLAIR'S
'MAN ABOUT TOWN'
BIJOU THEATRE 45th St. West of B'way
DOORS OPEN 11 A. M. CONTINUOUS

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
FOREVER AMBER
20th Century-Fox
TECHNICOLOR
starring LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE • GEORGE SANDERS
ON STAGE!
Veloz and Yolanda
Extra Added Attraction
Sid Caesar
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Short Subjects

"Forgotten Children"

(Hadassah)

This graphic portrayal of the problem of orphaned Jewish children of Europe is movingly narrated by Quentin Reynolds, and focusses on Palestine as the refuge and hope for these children's eventual development as normal, happy personalities. In poignant close-ups of scrawny, starved youngsters, submerged in the misery of Hitler's concentration camps, this short tugs at the heart-strings and cries for a solution to the problem of these "forgotten children." It was written by Mildred B. Vermont, edited by Stephen L. Sharff and produced by Hazel Greenwald. Ernest Bloch composed the music, which is excellent. Running time, 18 minutes.

"Smoke Eaters"

(This Is America—RKO Radio)

The sight and sound of fire engines roaring down the streets holds a universal fascination. The current issue of This Is America salutes the nation's fire fighters, both volunteer and professional.

The subject goes behind the scenes to show how firemen are trained. It also reconstructs a tenement fire to show how they strategically battle it. Along with the story, statistics of carelessness are given, and all in all it constitutes an interesting and exciting subject. Jay Bonafield produced. Phil Reisman, Jr., supervised, and Harry W. Smith directed and photographed. Running time, 17 minutes.

Paramount Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

ern division, is being attended by E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, home office sales executive; George A. Smith, Western division sales manager; Oscar A. Morgan, sales manager of shorts and Paramount News; district managers Ralph LiBeau, Kansas City, and Hugh Braly, Los Angeles; Harold Wirthwein, assistant Los Angeles district manager and captain of the current "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive, and managers of the nine branches in the Western division.

Branch managers attending include H. Neal East, San Francisco; A. R. Taylor, Los Angeles; Henry Haustein, Seattle; Frank Smith, Salt Lake City; Edward V. Maloney, Denver; Ray Copeland, Kansas City; Maurice Schweitzer, St. Louis; Harry Hamburg, Des Moines; Don Hicks, Omaha.

On the agenda are release and booking plans for five productions, "Unconquered," the blanket Thanksgiving week release of "Where There's Life," "Road to Rio," a Christmas release, "Dream Girl," and Hal Wallis' "I Walk Alone." Plans for the final stages of Paramount's three-month sales drive, which winds up with the release of "Where There's Life," also will be discussed.

Bluestone with Kay

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 13. — Joel Bluestone has assumed the management of the local Kay Film office. Ike and Harry Katz, Kay officials from Atlanta, visited New Orleans to install Bluestone, who was formerly in publicity and later was salesman for Universal and RKO Radio.

British Tax Halts Canadian Filming

MONTREAL, Nov. 13.—Production in Canada is now pretty much at a standstill and the three companies that blossomed last year are not prepared to undertake any more production until, they know more definitely how they stand insofar as the British market is concerned. The 75 per cent British tax applies to Canadian and Australian product, just as it does to American pictures.

However, according to Paul L'Angalis, vice-president of Quebec Productions, Canada's largest, Canadian film men are hoping to reach some kind of a separate settlement with the British government, if there is no protest by U. S. producers.

Quebec Productions has already produced one film on a bilingual basis, "Whispering City," in English, and "La Fortresse," in French.

The second major company, Renaissance Films, is being reorganized with a $3,000,000 capitalization. The company has purchased the Fiat studios in France, which are now the main source of its revenue since it dubs French dialogue for American films there. It is reported that the company's new studio, on the site of Montreal's Mount Royal, will open next month.

A new company, which is actually an outgrowth of the defunct Dominion Productions, has come into the field with the name of Canadian Motion Picture Productions. A program of seven "B" films has been announced, to be distributed by Screen Guild.

Paramount Shares

(*Continued from page* 1)

was a "direct exchange" but declined to identify the stock recipients, yesterday refused to confirm or deny the Wall Street report that the stock had gone to Liberty's owners.

At current market prices the shares are valued at slightly more than $3,000,000. At the time the Paramount-Liberty deal was made market value of 135,000 shares was approximately $4,000,000.

Classics' Set-up

(*Continued from page* 1)

Classics anticipates the release of 14 new pictures in 1948, with 60 per cent in Cinecolor. Heretofore the company has specialized in reissues.

For "Spirit of West Point," first new picture released by the company, 400 prints are being used.

Variety Elects Smart

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 13. — Roy L. Smart, executive of Wilby-Kincey Theatres, has been chosen chief barker of the Variety Club, tent No. 24, succeeding Cy Dillon. Others chosen, who will take their posts on Jan. 1 include: Scott Lett, first assistant chief barker; Barney Ross, second assistant; Sam Trincher, property master, and Tom Little, dough guy.

Don Sharpe Named

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Actors Equity Association of Australia has appointed Don S. Sharpe, Australian-born actor, now in Hollywood, as its representative here, empowered to report on conditions and practices of work, wage scales, contracts, etc., in all spheres of show business, particularly motion pictures and radio.

'Outlaw' Facts Wait Fielding's Recovery

Because he was confined to his home here yesterday by illness, New York City welfare commissioner Benjamin Fielding (formerly city license commissioner) was forced to postpone a scheduled interview with district attorney Frank S. Hogan for the purpose of detailing facts surrounding a reputed offer which he said came from Howard Hughes to clear the way for a showing of "The Outlaw" in New York.

The Welfare Department reported last night that Stanley B. Rose, Fielding's confidential aide, had an interview with Hogan yesterday to relate his version of the rejection of the alleged offer.

Rise in Music Rates

(*Continued from page* 1)

ture where only background music is provided by an Ascap member and in the case of musicals an individual pact would be needed for each Ascap song in a film.

Actually, it is understood that requests by exhibitors for the per-piece formula are motivated by a desire to prove the system unworkable, this for the benefit of the Department of Justice which has refused to bring anti-trust proceedings against Ascap on the grounds that that available system had not been tried.

It appears that Ascap in determining terms for per-piece licensing would endeavor to hold its administrative costs at the 20 per cent level by the device of drawing from its exhibitor licensees more revenue to offset the added expense involved in the heretofore untried method.

Mexican Owners Meet

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 13.—Means for meeting increasing problems will be sought at the annual convention of the Exhibitors Association of Mexico to be held here Nov. 27-29. The exhibitors complain of an increasingly difficult situation, less business, a public that is becoming more exacting, demanding bigger and better theatres and better pictures, and higher costs for labor, taxes and picture rentals.

New Mexican Distributor

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 13. — Peliculas Nacionales, a distributor, has been organized here by four of the largest producers and distributors, Clasa Films Mundiales, Filmex, Producciones Raul de Anda and Producciones Mexico, and a group of smaller ones headed by Alfonso Rosas Priego. Manager is Oscar J. Brooks, former Warner manager here.

Four to Screencraft

Three Sol Lesser productions and a James Cagney feature, "Battling Hoofer," formerly titled "Something to Sing About," are being prepared for re-release by Screencraft Pictures, J. S. Berkson, president, announces here. The films are "Fisherman's Wharf," "Escape to Paradise" and "Way Down South."

War on Obscene Films

HARTFORD, Nov. 13. — State police commissioner Edward J. Hickey has started an all-out campaign to ban the showing of lewd and obscene motion pictures in Connecticut.

High Court Decision Is Sent to Chicago

Washington, Nov. 13.—The Supreme Court's decision to refuse to hear the majors' appeal in the Jackson Park Chicago case went out in the mails today to the lower Federal Court in that city, according to Supreme Court sources here.

The lower court cannot put into effect the terms of its decision against the majors until it has received official written notice of Supreme Court action.

House Debate Seen In Contempt Moves

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Ten contempt citations recommended by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in its recent hearings will be presented to the full membership of the House on Nov. 25 for debate, committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas announced today.

Thomas also stated that the committee was in the process of hiring "experts" to analyze an unspecified number of "suspect films" for evidences of alleged Communist propaganda.

Thomas made the statement after a four-man sub-committee met this afternoon. Since a quorum was not present, the recommendation will be presented to the full committee for approval on Monday afternoon. The chairman said he was certain that the full committee would pass the recommendation.

Each citation will be argued on the floor for one hour, Thomas said. In his opinion, he added, only the first two would be argued because of the similarity among all 10.

Thomas declined to number thc "suspect films" or state where prints and scripts had been obtained. As for qualifications of the "experts," he said "they know as much about Communist propaganda as any people we have ever found in this country."

He also added that he could give no information as yet concerning the time and place of the "second phase" of the hearings on alleged Communist infiltration in Hollywood.

RKO Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

duction head, on the subject of leftism, and declared that Schary "still has our confidence."

The company today also elevated Don Hartman, Adrian Scott and Edward Dmytryk, who came under the fire of the House Un-American Committee probe, to producer-director status.

Four Drive-ins for N. M.

ROSWELL, N. M., Nov. 13. — Drive-in theatres will be erected in Clovis, Hobbs, Carlsbad and Roswell, by Theatre Enterprises, Inc.

Disney Prod. Dividend

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Walt Disney Productions today declared a 37.5 cent quarterly dividend on outstanding six per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock, payable Jan. 1.

BODYa

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at the Globe Th

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dSOUL

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d SOUL"!... **P.S. The**

ver business is going on in

d the Woods Theatre, Chicago — Wow!

U. S. Suit and Ascap Top ATOI Agenda

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 13.—Jack Kirsch and Abram F. Myers, Allied States' president and general counsel, respectively; Dave Palfreyman, Motion Picture Association, and Trueman T. Rembusch, president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, are among the speakers listed on the completed program for the 21st annual ATOI convention, to be held next Wednesday and Thursday at the Hotel Antlers, here. On the preceding evening the board will hold its annual meeting, following a dinner for board members and their wives.

Rembusch will welcome the conventioneers Wednesday morning, followed by Myers' discussion of "The Government Suit and Ascap," which leads off business discussions. Bill Carroll, ATOI executive secretary will make his annual report. Maurice Wolf of M-G-M will talk about "Movies Are My Business," followed by Pete Wood, discussing "Why Exhibitors Prefer Brunettes." Concluding the first day's business session will be an address, "Exhibitors Without Organization," by John Wolfberg, president of Allied Rocky Mountain Theatre Owners.

Palfreyman will open Thursday's session with an address on the screen in public relations, and Kirsch will then report on national Allied progress. Election of directors will be followed by observations on the ATOI, from Edward Raub, Jr., organization counsel. Other speakers will include Leon Bamberger of RKO Radio, New York; Leo Yassenoff of F. and Y. Construction Co., and Eric Berocivi, director general of Central European Theatre Affiliates, the latter scheduled for the banquet Thursday evening. Concluding the business session will be an open forum, conducted by Kirsch, Wolfberg and Wood.

The convention committee consists of Marc Wolf, Rembusch and Sam Neall.

Goldwyn on Duals

(*Continued from page* 1)

spectacular billboard advertising of "The Gangster" in Times Square here.

Goldwyn warned exhibitors that "you are not going to make the money you made" during the war. He pointed out that a business recession is possible and said the only solution is good pictures. He maintained that if exhibitors ask for low quality pictures for double bills they will be responsible if the industry runs into a depression.

"Unless your way of thinking is corrected," he warned exhibitors, "you'll have to make a garage out of your theatre."

Goldwyn said he would rather stop making pictures than change his policy of advanced admissions for top quality product.

Attack Mail-Order Selling

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 13.—Exhibitors who are doing business with distributors which have adopted the mail-order method of selling, and who are dissatisfied with the practice, are urged by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana to place their buying with companies which value their business highly enough to send a personal representative.

"In our past criticism of the dis-

Strike Link

(*Continued from page* 1)

vania Republican, who has just returned to the Capitol, are:

1) The back of the Hollywood strike has been broken. The carpenters are still putting up a face-saving resistance, but most of the men should be back to work soon. However, IATSE is now in a vulnerable position should it ever attempt a strike in that too many anti-IATSE workers would be available to the producers to break the strike.

2) A chief reason why the strike dragged on is the fact that the three-man AF of L committee which ruled on jurisdiction consisted of men who, though highly qualified in other respects, knew nothing about the industry. A F of L president William Green must "take personal blame" for this, Kearns said.

3) The strike would not have happened if the Taft-Hartley Act had been in effect. Kearns will recommend an amendment to the law to cover future jurisdictional disputes whereby unions and employers will appoint an arbitrator to make binding its rulings on jurisdictional disputes.

4) In another matter before his sub-committee, the investigation of James C. Petrillo, there is no evidence of collusion between Petrillo and the motion picture industry to block the advance of television. The television clause in the A F of M contracts with the studios was included on Petrillo's insistence and not as a result of conspiracy by the producers.

5) Petrillo's ban on recording is in restraint of trade, Kearns believes, and he plans to confer with Labor Committee chairman Hartley.

Exchanges, IATSE Discuss Wages

Negotiation of IATSE wage demands for some 6,000 exchange workers under a wage-clause reopening was started here yesterday at a meeting between "IA" executives and representatives for 10 distributing companies. Another parley will be called shortly.

Headed by Pat Scollard of [illegible]mount, the negotiating group for the companies includes: Harry Buckley, United Artists; Bernard Goodman, Warner; Clarence Hill, 20th Century-Fox; Hank Kaufman, Columbia; Tom Murray, Universal; Charles O'Brien, M-G-M; A. E. Schiller, Republic, and A. A. Schubart, RKO Radio.

The union committee consists of Thomas J. Shea, assistant "IA" vice-president; Louise Wright, international vice-president, and Joseph D. Basson, international representative.

Walsh 'Studying' Dispute At Fox West Coast Houses

Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, disclosed here yesterday that he is "studying" the Fox West Coast operators' dispute over a demand by Local No. 150 that FWC pay higher wages at 13 Los Angeles second-run theatres which have been converted to first-runs for exhibition of "Forever Amber." Reports from the Coast indicate that while intervention by Walsh is expected, the 13 theatres are continuing operations with managerial operators.

COMPLETING A SENSATIONAL
Transcontinental Triumph

"Big—huge—smash —paces town" says Variety for
Kansas City

Denver
1st 3 days ahead of all current upped-admission hits

Dallas
Biggest 2nd week roadshow gross

And finally in
'Frisco
15% to 40% over biggest recent hits!

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by TECHNICOLOR
with HOWARD DA SILVA BORIS KARLOFF · CECIL KELLAWAY · WARD BOND
Produced and Directed by CECIL B. DeMILLE
Screenplay by Charles Bennett, Fredric M. Frank and Jesse Lasky, Jr. • Based on the novel by Neil H. Swanson

UNCON

from
Paramount

U. A. Financing

(Continued from page 1)

on Wednesday. UA wants to establish a $5,000,000 fund for financing its producers.

Sears and Kelly were on the Coast last week with UA co-owners Charles Chaplin and Mary Pickford, and conferred there with representatives of the Bank of America and Security First National of Los Angeles, it is understood.

Kelly yesterday said that actual negotiations had not been begun with any bank, adding that any financial arrangement would be contingent on the outcome of the current efforts to settle the British film tax problem.

Miss Pickford is due here from the Coast tomorrow and is expected to approach local banks on the $5,000,000 loan.

A report on the preliminary conversations is expected to be given the UA board when it meets here on Tuesday. Indications are that Franklin Cole, one of Miss Pickford's directors, will resign from the board at that meeting. Cole would neither confirm nor deny the report yesterday.

Paramount Profits

(Continued from page 1)

earnings of non-consolidated subsidiaries. Earnings for the quarter ended Sept. 28, 1946 were estimated at $12,085,000, including a $1,891,000 share of earnings of non-consolidated subsidiaries.

The $8,105,000 of estimated earnings for the third 1947 quarter represents $1.15 per share on 7,020,972 shares outstanding on Oct. 4, which compares with $1.61 per share for the quarter ended Sept. 28, 1946 on 7,504,272 shares then outstanding. Computed on the same basis the $25,512,000 of estimated earnings for the nine months of 1947 represent $3.63 per share, which compares with $4.51 per share for the same nine months of 1946.

Review

"Pirates of Monterey"

(Universal-International)

"PIRATES of Monterey" is an energetic period drama, filled with the clatter of swords, the beats of hooves, and the scent of intrigue. In the procession of cloak-and-dagger sequences, few stereotypes are avoided, but events flow with an easy imagination that results in relaxing entertainment. The mood of escape is further enhanced by lavish outdoor scenes caught in the vivid hues of Technicolor.

Rod Cameron makes a dashing hero in the yarn, which has him transporting rifles between Mexico City and Monterey sometime during the last century when a conflict raged between different factions of the government. On one of his missions he meets and rescues cherry-lipped Maria Montez from a runaway carriage. He falls in love with the senorita, but her actions lead him to suspect her of conspiracy. Before the assorted complications are resolved and the two are brought happily together, several tumultuous things happen, among them a battle with pirates and the eventual thwarting of an attempt to overthrow the established rulers.

Phillip Reed makes an adequate military suitor who loves and loses the fair senorita, while Mikhail Rasumny, as a clown on horseback, provides comic flavor. Gilbert Roland as the villain is suave and darkly hateful. Paul Malvern produced and Alfred Werker directed, from a screenplay by Sam Hellman and Margaret Buell.

Running time, 77½ minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Five Films for Lopert

Five foreign films will be released this season by Lopert Films here, according to I. E. Lopert, president. They are: "Shoe-Shine," "Beauty and the Beast," "Martin Roumagnac," "Mr. Orchid," and "A Friend Will Come Tonight."

Smith on Rentals

(Continued from page 1)

that says a theatre shall have 50 per cent of our film rental as profit before we share on a 35 per cent picture," he said in emphasizing that virtually two-thirds of American films corporations' income had been slashed by foreign developments. Smith added that 35 per cent split figures should be cut to "a point where the exhibitor has not more than one-third of our film rental as profit."

"In the matter of scale deals they should not allow more than our percentage of film rental as profit at the different levels," he continued.

At the same time, Smith and assistant general sales manager W. C. Gehring, were informed by the division managers that a record of 13,000 feature bookings on 20th-Fox product will be achieved during Thanksgiving week. This number of bookings, it was explained, is being chalked up during the final week of the "Andy Smith Drive."

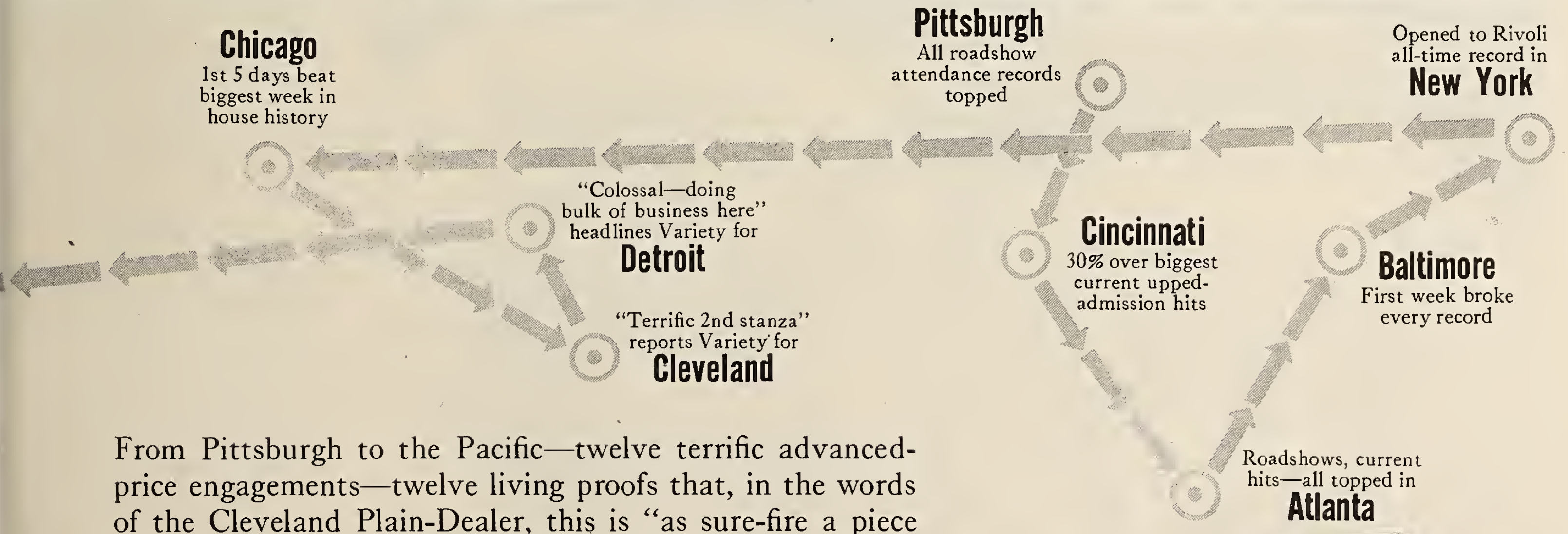
Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director, spoke on his department's plans for next year.

It was also disclosed at the meeting yesterday that a print pool whereby division managers allocate prints to fill territorial day-and-date engagements has been established, and will become effective with the release of "Daisy Kenyon."

U-I Has a Solution For Long Programs

The large number of unusually long "A" features, both in circulation and forthcoming, has prompted Universal-International to launch a series of three reel films which the company feels would be preferable to a second feature in many localities.

Prompting the program, which is under Edward McAvoy's direction, is the fact that some theatremen are finding the lengthy two-hour top feature in itself not sufficient for a full program (along with news-reel and trailer), but at the same time the addition of a second feature stretches the show to an overlength. McAvoy says he found this to be the case particularly in the South and Southwest.


Chicago
1st 5 days beat biggest week in house history
Pittsburgh
All roadshow attendance records topped
Opened to Rivoli all-time record in
New York
"Colossal—doing bulk of business here" headlines Variety for
Detroit
Cincinnati
30% over biggest current upped-admission hits
Baltimore
First week broke every record
"Terrific 2nd stanza" reports Variety for
Cleveland
Roadshows, current hits—all topped in
Atlanta

From Pittsburgh to the Pacific—twelve terrific advanced-price engagements—twelve living proofs that, in the words of the Cleveland Plain-Dealer, this is "as sure-fire a piece of entertainment as the great C.B. ever offered the public!"

QUERED

Alan Ladd IS ALADDIN *at the* BOX OFFICE..

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The MONSTER MYSTERY SHOW

Boris **KARLOFF**
Bela **LUGOSI**
BLACK FRIDAY
with STANLEY RIDGES
ANNE NAGEL ANNE GWYNE
JAMES CRAIG

BASIL RATHBONE
ALAN LADD
HUGH HERBERT
and **BELA LUGOSI**
THE BLACK CAT
GALE SONDERGAARD
GLADYS COOPER
BROD CRAWFORD

BROKE ALL RECORDS IN 10 DETROIT THEATRES

Already
Booked Over
THE LOEW'S
METROPOLITAN
CIRCUIT
Butterfield Circuit, Detroit
Capitol, Newark; Trans Lux,
Boston; Academy—Encore, Los
Angeles; Studio Theatre, Philo.;
Ambassador — Majestic, N.
Y. C.; Bijou, New Haven;
and being booked sol-
idly by smart show-
men everywhere.

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Astor Film Exchange, Inc.,
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United Film Distributors, Inc.,
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Henri Elman Enterprises, Inc.,
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Cincinnatti, Indianapolis
Popular Pictures Co.,
1632 Central Pkwy., Cin., O.

Cleveland
Realart Pictures of Cleveland,
2108 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

Dallas
Screen Guild Productions of Texas,
308 So. Harwood St., Dallas, Texas.

Detroit
Allied Film Exchange,
2310 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Los Angeles
Associated Film Exchanges,
1928 S.Vermont Ave. Los Angeles,Cal.

Minneapolis, Milwaukee
Independent Film Distributors,
111 No. 11th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

New Orleans
Film Classic of Louisiana,
218 S. Liberty St., New Orleans, La.

Oklahoma City
Screen Guild Productions of Okla.,
Grand Street, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Philadelphia
Box Office Pictures, Inc.,
1239 Vine Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Pittsburgh
Film Classics of Western Pennsylvania,Inc
1701 Blvd. of the Allies, Pittsburgh, Pa

Seattle, Portland
Favorite Films of Northern Cal., Inc.,
261Golden Gate Ave.,San Francisco,

St. Louis
Screen Guild Productions of St. Louis.,
3324 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo.

San Francisco
Favorite Films of California.
261 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, Ca

Washington, D. C.
Equity Film Exchanges, Inc.,
1001 New Jersey Ave., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

REALART Pictures, Inc. 2 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK (16) N. Y.
MURRAY HILL 5-7428

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
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NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 96 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

Tidal Wave of New Local Taxes Feared

Many States, Cities Look for New Income

Exhibitors throughout the country are fearful of a serious wave of local taxation with many states and cities looking for new sources of revenue to support housing and educational projects as well as many civic improvements, according to New York film exccutives and circuit

(*Continued on page* 3)

Probe's '2nd Phase' Seen Off Until '48

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Delay of the "second phase" of the House Un-American Activities Committee's probe of alleged Communist infiltration in Hollywood was indicated at the weekend with the disclosure that the committee would open hearings on "another subject" on Dec. 1.

Coupled with the approaching

(*Continued on page* 3)

Mayer, Eady Meet Today in London

London, Nov. 16. — Gerald Mayer, manager of the American Motion Picture Association's international department, due to arrive here tomorrow on his way to Scandinavia, is expected to confer with Sir Wilfred Eady on developments revolving around the *ad valorem* tax impasse discussions which Sir Wilfred has had with MPA European manager F. W. Allport thus far.

Next interview between Sir Wilfred and Allport, who are said to be weighing a possible solution to the impasse, has been delayed due to the resignation of Sir Hugh Dalton as Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer. Sir Stafford Cripps' assumption of the chancellorship meanwhile, is said to have disturbed some film circles here but in official quarters it is held that Cripps is in favor of an early equitable solution of the impasse, at least in principle.

Trustees of MPF Meet Here Dec. 8-9

Motion Picture Foundation's board of trustees will convene at the Hotel Astor, here, on Dec. 8-9, Barney Balaban, acting chairman of the coordinating committee, announced at the weekend. Representatives from all 31 exchange areas, including the two not yet organized, are expected to be on hand for the first national meeting of the MPF since its establishment in New Orleans one year ago, according to Balaban.

In addition to a national trustee from each exchange area, Balaban said, 10 trustees-at-large, representing distribution companies, will be appointed this week to attend the meeting.

Asserting that "there is every reason to believe that all of the (exchange) areas will be organized . . . within the next couple of weeks," Balaban declared: "This brings to a successful conclusion our efforts during the past year to build the Foundation upon the broadest and most representative base."

Letters of invitation to the first trustees' meeting were sent at the

(*Continued on page* 3)

Federation Drive Meeting Nov. 25

Leading independent and circuit operators in the Metropolitan area will gather at the Hotel Astor here on Nov. 25, for a luncheon-meeting at which the exhibitor campaign in behalf of the 1947 fund-raising drive of the Federation of Jewish Philan-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Fined for Raised Prices, Will Sue

Mexico City, Nov. 16.—Several exhibitors plan to sue for injunctions to block the city treasury department from enforcing fines totaling $300,000 which it has ordered against them because they either raised their admission prices or maintained high charges without authorization. The exhibitors contend the fining is unjust because there is no ceiling on theatre charges here.

May Double Rank Imports In 1948

If J. Arthur Rank succeeds in realizing his $40,000,000 British production program for 1948, the rate at which his pictures are imported here may be doubled by next June, according to a spokesman for Universal-International, principal U. S. outlet for Rank product.

At present U-I is importing Rank films at the rate of about 10 a year, exclusive of the five to 10 which U-I affiliate Prestige Pictures imports annually for "art" theatre distribution.

If as many as 30 films produced by Rank under his 1948 program measure up, there is no reason to believe they will not be imported, it was said. Meanwhile, it is expected that when Jock Lawrence, president of the U. S. Rank organization, returns here from England on Nov. 22, he will be able to state how many of the 43 which Rank plans will be keyed for the U. S.

"The Bishop's Wife"

[*Samuel Goldwyn-RKO Radio*] — It Leaves a Glow

THE seal of Samuel Goldwyn, almost without variance a warranty of merit, implants itself firmly on his latest attraction. In the realm of fantasy, which is where "The Bishop's Wife" belongs, perhaps there has never been anything to excel it.

Showmen are not normally prone to start cheering over this type of vehicle, but fixations do not apply here. "The Bishop's Wife" is a refreshing, utterly charming and amusing attraction endowed with all of the planks necessary in the production structure to give it strength. This strength begins with the Robert Nathan novel on which the film is based, flows into the knowing script written by Robert E. Sherwood and Leonardo Bercovici, embraces appreciative direction by Henry Koster and sterling performances by principals of the cast. It is a happy idea blossoming into a happy picture with a spiritual warmth of sweeping contagion. "The Bishop's Wife" is particularly appropriate for the Christmas season, but any season of the year will also do very nicely.

Loretta Young is married to David Niven, the harassed Bishop, whose dream of building a cathedral is encountering such obstacles as

(*Continued on page* 3)

Say Allied Top Command In Split on Ascap

Negotiation, Not Legal Fights, Favored by Some

The Allied States high command is reportedly split on the matter of dealing with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on a downward revision of its 300 per cent music reproduction rate increase. Certain regional and state unit heads are said to be opposed to pursuing judiciary or legislative courses in an endevaor to check Ascap's rate increases.

Although official confirmation was lacking it was said by responsible sources here that while Allied board chairman Abram Myers is out to pro-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Royalty Payments Halt Scophony Use

General Precision Equipment, which holds exclusive rights to Scophony theatre television patents in an arrangement with Scophony Corp. of America, already has offered use of the patents to three companies in the electronics and manufacturing fields, including Bell and Howell of Chicago, but agreement could not be reached on royalty payments, a GPE spokesman reports here.

American Scophony, GPE, Scophony, Ltd., of England, and Television Productions, the last a wholly-owned Paramount subsidiary, were originally accused by the Department of Justice of conspiracy to prevent the development of the patents, alleging that as a result television progress is being unnecessarily retarded.

Efforts to effect a consent decree of the Government's anti-trust suit

(*Continued on page* 3)

Goldwyn Awarded; Talks to Truman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Friday was, in effect, Sam Goldwyn Day in Washington.

In the morning he received from Secretary of the Army Royall the President's Certificate of Merit for "outstanding services" during the war. Then he was honor guest at a luncheon given by Motion Picture As-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW, Selznick Releasing Organization president, left here at the weekend for Hollywood.

•

MIKE SIMONS, assistant to HENDERSON RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief, will leave here Thursday to attend the Nov. 24-25 Dallas meeting of the Allied Theatre Owners of Texas.

•

BUDDY ROGERS is scheduled to arrive here today in his own plane to join his wife, MARY PICKFORD, who arrived in New York over the weekend.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here today for Indianapolis where he will speak at the convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of Indiana.

•

AILEEN BRENON, magazine contact for SRO Eastern publicity-advertising department, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, returned to New York from Hollywood over the weekend.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, associate production aide to WILLIAM GOETZ of Universal-International, is here from the Coast with his wife, JOAN FONTAINE.

•

LEO F. SAMUELS, assistant worldwide sales manager for Walt Disney Productions, has returned here from Mexico City.

•

ROY DEL RUTH has returned to the Coast, while his associate, JOE KAUFMAN, who accompanied him here, will remain for two weeks.

•

PATRECE SNYDER, Eagle-Lion radio manager, is recovering from surgery at the French Hospital here.

•

FLORENCE SILVER, Republic still department head, was married here yesterday to BERNARD MILLER.

•

EDMUND GOULDING is here from Hollywood.

D. A. Silent After Fielding Visit

After a two and a half hour meeting Friday with Benjamin Fielding, former New York City License Commissioner who has charged that Bennett E. Myers, former major general under investigation in Washington, mentioned a "$100,000 commission" in connection with a New York showing of "The Outlaw," the District Attorney's office here said that no action would be taken until Fielding's statement was studied.

Fielding, who is now Welfare Commissioner, said, "Everything I said has already been printed in the newspapers."

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IT appears to this neutral corner that some exhibitor organizations or their leaders are playing ostrich with respect to what is going on between the Theatre Owners of America and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on the new performing rights license fees for theatres.

While other exhibitor organizations pursue their separate ways of handling Ascap and its demands for increased license fees, TOA leaders are negotiating with the Society for new rates.

No matter how determinedly or how long the other exhibitor organizations look the other way while the TOA-Ascap negotiations go on, every exhibitor in the United States will be paying Ascap the fee agreed upon by TOA and the Society, come February 1, 1948.

That is inevitable because the Federal consent decree governing Ascap's operations prohibits the music licensing society from discriminating in the matter of rates between licensees within a particular classification.

Accordingly, once Ascap has arrived at an agreement on rates with a representative body of exhibitor licensees such as TOA's membership, it will be required by the non-discriminatory section of its consent decree to make the same rates applicable to all exhibitor licensees.

•

Supposing other exhibitors refuse to accept the rates agreed upon by Ascap and TOA?

Under its decree, Ascap could refuse to issue licenses to exhibitors at different rates on the grounds that if it were to do so it would be in violation of its decree and in contempt of the Federal court.

The unlicensed exhibitors would be subject to the drastic penalties for copyright infringement permitted by the Federal copyright law.

Entirely apart from the merits, and they are regarded by copyright attorneys as questionable, of the legal actions contemplated by some exhibitor organizations against Ascap, none of them can be prosecuted and determined until long after Feb. 1, when the new rates are scheduled to become effective.

Nor does the anti-Ascap legislation contemplated by other exhibitor organizations, regardless of the value of the relief which such legislation, in its ultimate form, may afford exhibitors, stand any impressive chance of being made law by Feb. 1.

Therefore, should other exhibitor organizations protest the rates that may be agreed upon by TOA and Ascap when they are put into effect on Feb. 1, those organizations will be in a patently untenable position. They have been invited by both Ascap and TOA to join in the negotiations now going on. Apparently they have chosen to disregard the whole thing.

Nor will efforts to discredit the TOA agreement hold water later on.

Those who might be inclined to claim they could have made a better deal than anything TOA may turn up in the future, are discrediting themselves now by their indifference to the current negotiations.

If they really think they can make a better deal than can TOA, they owe it to their membership to get into the negotiations at once and attempt it.

If they make the claim when it is too late to do anything about it, they should be asked: Why didn't you get in and do it then?

Once the new rates are determined, and they will be lower than the rates heretofore proposed by Ascap, there will be no restrainer upon any exhibitor organization which wishes to proceed with anti-Ascap legislation or litigation.

But, while proceeding with those, why pay Ascap the 300 per cent rate increase it asks when exhibitors can just as well be paying less than that.

How much less is up to the effectiveness of exhibitor negotiators.

• •

On Groucho Marx's new radio quiz program last week, two contestants were held to have supplied the incorrect answer to the question, "What was the biggest grossing picture of all time?", when they replied, "Gone with the Wind."

Groucho said the correct answer is "Birth of a Nation."

Guess Metro and Dave Selznick have been misinformed. Or could Groucho be wrong?

Newsreel Parade

THE Food Train rolling to its goal marks a newsreel highlight in all current issues. Among other items covered are the rescue of 31 from a sinking ship, the Howard Hughes' inquiry and football. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 23—He[illegible] rescue in stormy Atlantic. U. S. A[illegible] leaves Italy. Thanksgiving message.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 221—Thirty-one rescued as ship sinks in raging sea. Howard Hughes spotlight turns on air general. Food train "snowballs" across the U. S. Workhouse of the air. Amputees swim to health.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 25—U. S. occupation troops sail for home. Food train. Howard Hughes' inquiry brings new revelations. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 91—Howard Hughes' inquiry in Washington. Food train speeds to goal. Football. French wrestlers in comic mat tussle.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 26—United States, Britain and France honor war dead. Food train. Who will run for president? California Wild West thriller by kids.

---

20 Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Four of 20 pictures newly reviewed by the Legion of Decency have been given an A-I rating; they are: "On the Old Spanish Trail," Republic; "Prairie Express," Monogram; "Return of the Lash," Eagle-Lion, and "The Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap," Universal-International.

Rated A-II were: "Beware of Pity," U-I; "Cass Timberlane," M-G-M; "Cavalleria Rusticana," (Italian) Superfilm; "The Crime Doctor's Gamble," Columbia; "The Fabulous Texan," Republic; "The Lost Moment," U-I; "Man About Town," RKO Radio; "Railroaded," E-L; "Roses Are Red," 20th Century-Fox, and "That Hagen Girl," Warners.

Placed in Class B were: "The Gangster," Monogram; "Gentleman's Agreement," 20th-Fox; "It Had to Be You," Columbia; "Linda, Be Good" and "Out of the Blue," both E-L, and "The Upturned Glass," Rank-U-I.

Warners Set 12 for Britain Through May

Warner Brothers will release 12 features in Great Britain from Dec. 22 through next May 17. Releases are: "Possessed," "The Unfaithful," and "Idol of Paris" (British-made), all new product and presumably in England before American distributors clamped a boycott on new Hollywood exports to London. Others, all U-K re-releases, are: "The Sea Hawk," "The Sea Wolf," "Marked Woman," "Dust Be My Destiny," "Each Dawn I Die," "Bad Men of Missouri," "King's Row," "Wild Bill Hickok" and "Anthony Adverse."

Cancels 'Best Years'

Because of a crowded booking schedule, the Bijou Theatre here has cancelled "The Best Years of Our Lives," originally scheduled to play a return Times Square engagement.

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News Briefs

TED R. GAMBLE, Pacific Northwest circuit operator, will be awarded a scroll of honor by the Picture Pioneers for his work as a Government aide which "reflects great credit on the motion picture industry," at the organization's eighth annual dinner on Wednesday at the Plaza Hotel, here. Gamble, who is president of the Theatre Owners of America, was national director of the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury during the war and is now a consultant both to the Treasury Department and to President Truman's Committee on Food Conservation. Scrolls will also be awarded to Adolph Zukor and to George Jessel.

'IA' Coast Local Walkout Spreads to 26 Second-runs

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 16.—IATSE Local No. 150's walkout of projectionists over the union's claim for a first-run wage scale during the showing of "Forever Amber" has spread to 26 Fox West Coast second-run theatres here. While theatre operations continued with managers taking over, IATSE international representative Carl Cooper has been instructed by "IA" president Richard F. Walsh to resume contract negotiations.

Parade to Mark Friendship Train's Arrival Tomorrow

A parade in honor for the arrival here tomorrow of the Friendship Food Train will march from the Battery to City Hall where Mayor William O'Dwyer will officiate at welcoming ceremonies. Meanwhile, the train's aid-for-Europe cross-country journey is said to have had success far exceeding expectations when it was first sent on its way by FFT national chairman Harry M. Warner in Los Angeles on Nov. 7.

FCC to Hear Television Channel Proposals Today

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Federal Communications Commission hearings will open here tomorrow to determine whether television broadcasters and non-government services are to share broadcasting channels. All parties concerned are expected to argue against the sharing of channels.

Jack Chinell Promoted to RKO Radio Buffalo Manager

Jack Chinell has been appointed manager of RKO Radio's branch in Buffalo, succeeding Elmer Lux, resigned, it was announced here Friday by Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president. Chinell, who assumes his new post today, has been with the company in Buffalo for 15 years.

Ard Named Golden's Aide At Warner Brothers Here

William Ard has been named assistant to Gil Golden, Warner advertising manager, by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity. Ard, working at the home office here, will concentrate on newspapers, magazines and radio.

Krim, Foy, Schwalberg Confer

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—A. W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager, has arrived here for conferences with president Arthur B. Krim and production chief Bryan Foy, on forthcoming product schedules and sales policies. Following the conferences, Schwalberg will resume his tour of exchanges.

Luncheon for Mooney

Paul Mooney, Jr., of *Motion Picture Herald's Manager's Round Table* editorial staff, who has resigned to take up residence at Long Beach, Cal., was given a farewell luncheon by some 25 editorial associates and film company publicists at Garrison's Restaurant, here, on Friday. Mooney, a former lieutenant in the U. S. Army who was wounded in the last war, will announce future plans following a rest on the Coast.

Bookers Meet Tonight

Motion Picture Bookers Club will meet at the Hotel Taft, here, this evening to nominate officers for 1948. Oscar Lager, president, will preside.

"The Bishop's Wife"

(*Continued from page 1*)

the demanding Gladys Cooper whose wealth is vitally required. The Bishop is unwittingly neglecting his wife and their young daughter, Karolyn Grimes, but it is preoccupation and worry over his project which are responsible.

Without warning Cary Grant enters as the angel sent winging earthward on the double in urgent response to the Bishop's prayers. Grant parades under no false colors insofar as Niven is concerned and with the others simply allows them to draw their own uncertain conclusions. The Bishop, in fact, has a hard time comprehending the situation and turns out to be befuddled and confused most of the way until Grant's persistently gentle manipulations of individuals and situations give Niven what, actually, he had sought in prayer.

As Grant divines it—and he is in an unchallengeable position to divine—it was guidance. The guidance does not point the way toward a cathedral, but toward the material and spiritual needs of the people. In the doing, it serves to return to its former status the relationship, never seriously threatened at any time, between Niven and Miss Young. There are by-paths branching off the main plot, principally having to do with Monty Woolley and the restored faith which moves him toward completion of his long-lagging writings.

With material that could become embarrassingly cloying and whimsical and easily slide completely off base, nothing of the sort develops. There is a great deal of fun to be enjoyed out of the great deal of fun which has been incorporated in the expert development of the story, and its heart-warming qualities are never absent. In secondary roles, first-rate performances are to be credited to James Gleason, Elsa Lanchester and Sara Hayden, among others.

Running time, 108 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

Allied-Ascap

(*Continued from page 1*)

mote anti-Ascap legislation, and others are seeking "relief" in the courts, there is a strong feeling among other highly-placed Allied leaders in the field that the Ascap matter should be handled by negotiations with Ascap itself.

Theatre Owners of America opened negotiations with Ascap a few weeks ago and continuation of these by a special TOA committee was authorized by its board at its recent Chicago meeting. It is planned to resume negotiations shortly, although no new date has been set.

Scophony Patents

(*Continued from page 1*)

are continuing, with all parties understood to be in agreement on terms. The Department reportedly is particularly anxious to clear the suit from its books.

Paramount, through its Television Productions, has exclusive rights to Scophony non-theatre standard patents, and the company is said to be willing to relinquish these.

Calls for Curb of State Censor Power

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 16.—*The Evangelist*, Albany Catholic weekly publication, editorially advocates amendment of the state censorship laws to curb powers granted to the motion picture division of the State Education Department, contending it is not qualified to set the moral standards for the state in the realm of film entertainment.

The editorial cited the recent state supreme court decision restraining the Rochester public safety commissioner from enforcing an order banning exhibition of "Forever Amber," which maintained that the power of the state censor board to license such a picture nullifies a local law or ordinance to the contrary.

New Local Taxes

(*Continued from page 1*)

heads returned here from a number of theatre organization meetings in the field.

General feeling is that measures already adopted in several towns in Ohio and in other cities, plus the enabling act passed by New York State presage a nationwide tax rampage, unless theatremen are successful in preventative moves. Warnings to prepare for such action have been voiced by exhibitors throughout the country repeatedly for many weeks.

At the recent meeting of close to 60 principals of the Theatre Owners of America in Chicago the opinion was almost unanimously shared that part of the tidal wave of taxation, most of it on a community level, is for the most part being held in check pending any reduction of the 20 per cent Federal admissions levy. At that time, it is felt, state and city legislatures are certain to find films what they believe to be a convenient new-money source.

Cineguild Appoints

J. Arthur Rank's Cineguild unit in London has named Stanley Haynes to the board of directors. Eric Ambler, writer, recently took a similar post, Eagle Lion's office here disclosed.

Fear Cripps May Impede Tax Deal

Washington, Nov. 16.—Government and industry spokesmen here fear that the appointment of Sir Stafford Cripps as Chancellor of the Exchequer might prove an additional stumbling block in the negotiations for an alternative to the British 75 per-cent film tax.

Cripps, they pointed out, is known as one of the outstanding "austerity" spokesmen and the British official least responsive to pressure from the British film industry.

$150,000 Involved In Burma Film Tax

An estimated annual remittance of $150,000 from Burma to the United States appears to be jeopardized as a result of the 80 per cent tax on American films in Burma. The tax becomes effective Dec. 1, exempted are education and travel films.

In discussing the tax, Frank V. Kennebeck, United Artists general manager from Indiana, who is here for home office conferences, pointed out that it would not be profitable to send films to Burma under the circumstances. He disclosed that because of the dollar situation in Burma, American companies have been having difficulties getting remittances out since last April. There are about 13 theatres exhibiting American films in Burma.

MPF Trustees

(*Continued from page 1*)

weekend to the following elected trustees: Carter Barron, J. A. Becker, A. H. Blank, William Elson, Jay Emanuel, Si Fabian, Dr. Jacob Fishman, Sam Gillette, Charles R. Gilmour, Ray A. Grombacher, Earl J. Hudson, H. F. Kincey, M. A. Lightman, Sr., R. R. Livingston, Allen S. Moritz, M. J. Mullin, E. V. Richards, Jr., Sam Rinzler, John Rowley, A. Schoenstadt, B. F. Shearer, M. A. Silver, Fred Wehrenberg, Max M. Yellen and Jerry Zigmond.

Probe Delayed

(*Continued from page 1*)

Christmas vacation, insistence by J. Parnell Thomas, committee chairman, that the Dec. 1 hearings will have "absolutely nothing to do with the Hollywood probe," makes it unlikely that the Hollywood investigation will take place before early next year.

Thomas refused to disclose what the Dec. 1 hearings will embrace, but declared that it would not be the "second phase" of the Hollywood inquiry.

Correction

Don Hartman, RKO producer-director, was inadvertently referred to in last Friday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY as one "who came under the fire of the House Un-American Committee probe." The reference was erroneous. Hartman did not appear before the committee.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY regrets the error and is happy to make this correction.

Walter Winchell cheers–"THE MOST SENSAT

"Darryl F. Zanuck Made It An Excellent Production. He Assigned Elia Kazan to Direct It. Moss Hart Put His Heart into It. A Profoundly Moving and Dramatic Story of Today!"

— N. Y. Daily News

"A shining milestone in the development of the movies. It covers the movie industry with glory! Everyone who lives in our times must see it!"

– N. Y. PM

"*Will magnetize audiences to the boxoffice!*"

–Film Daily

"A rousing memorable experience. Superb performances. *Climax to a lifetime of movie-going!*"

— World-Telegram

"One of the most vital, stirring and impressive pictures in history! *It will clean up at the boxoffice!*"

—Variety

"A brilliant irresistible entertainment. The 20th Century-Fox Production has gone all out in this audacious, emotionally stirring, human conflict!"

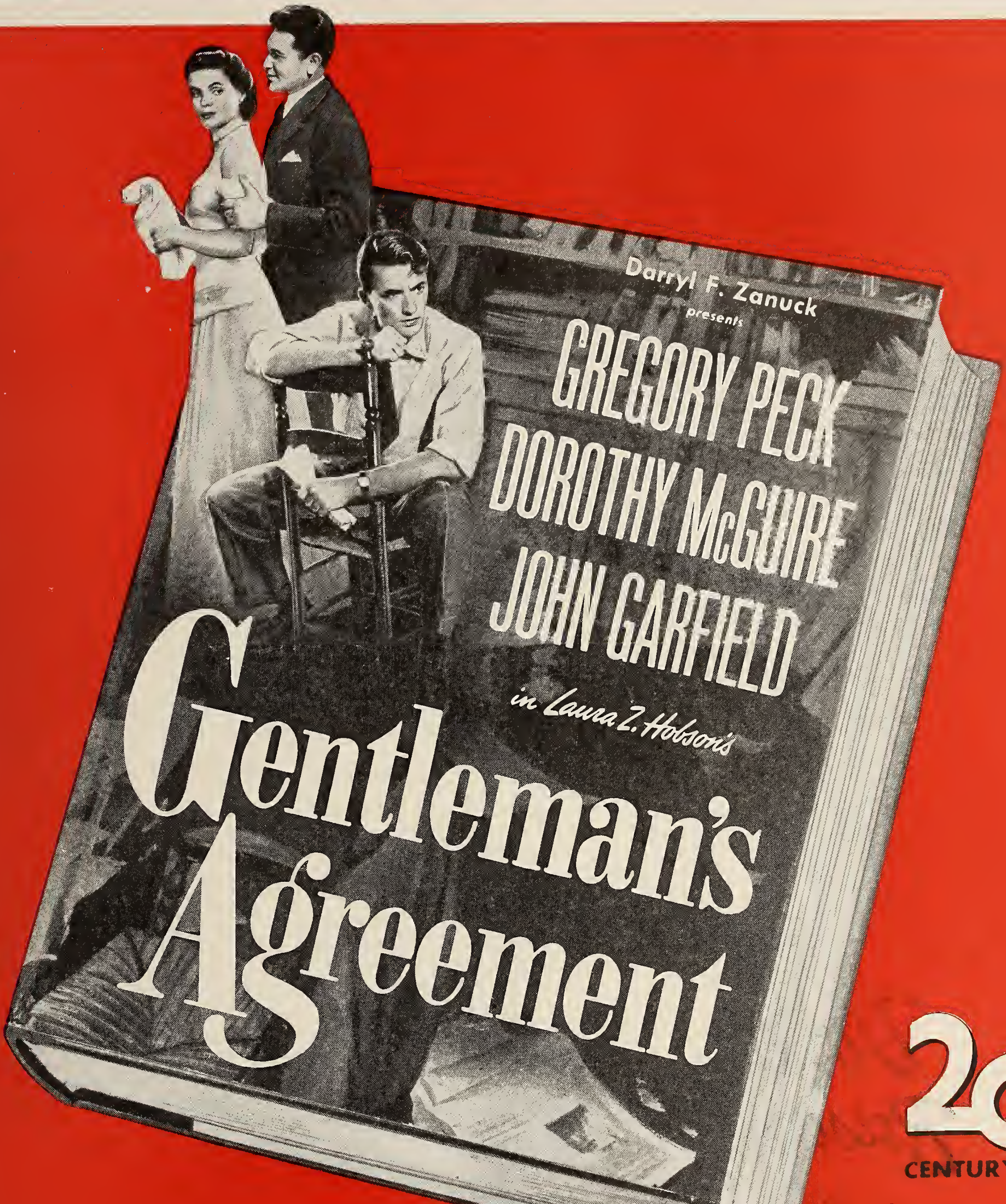
—N. Y. Herald Tribune

"A really superb presentation headed for top grosses!"

—Showmen's Trade Review

And at the boxoffice–THE MOST SENSATIONA

NAL RAVE REVIEWS IN FILM HISTORY!"



Darryl F. Zanuck
presents

GREGORY PECK
DOROTHY McGUIRE
JOHN GARFIELD

in Laura Z. Hobson's

Gentleman's Agreement

20th
CENTURY-FOX

with

Celeste HOLM · Anne REVERE · June HAVOC · Albert DEKKER · Jane WYATT · Dean STOCKWELL · Sam JAFFE

Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK Screen Play by MOSS HART Directed by ELIA KAZAN

ROSSES IN 20TH's LONG-RUN HIT HISTORY!

Feature Reviews

"Big Town After Dark"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Nov. 16

THE Messrs. William Pine and William Thomas, whose years in production have dulled nary a mite their box-office sensitivity acquired on the exhibition front, supply here, as the third of their pictures based on the "Big Town" radio show, a trim melodrama developed smoothly and snugly through easily taken stages of mounting narrative to a climax as unpredictable and exciting as the most avid of amateur criminologists in the audience could reasonably ask for. Directed by Thomas, from an original screenplay by Whitman Chambers, the production is a bit of all right from stem to stern.

Philip Reed, whose appearance and performance match admirably the radio personality known as Steve Wilson, finds his newspaper staff abruptly graced by the presence of the publisher's niece, played in surprising fashion by Anne Gillis, who turns out, by a somewhat stunning sequence of events, to be in league with gangsters to fleece her uncle of $50,000 by means of a phony kidnapping. The plot is excellently complicated, for audience purposes, and gains nothing from needless detailing here, although it may be of point to mention that two murders are committed.

Others in the cast are Hillary Brooke, as the hero's momentarily estranged star reporter; Vince Barnett, in possibly his best role to date; Joe Sawyer, Douglas Blackley, Charles Arnt, Joe Allen, Jr., William Heade, Arthur Space, Dick Keene and Sumner Getchel.

Running time, 69 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

William R. Weaver

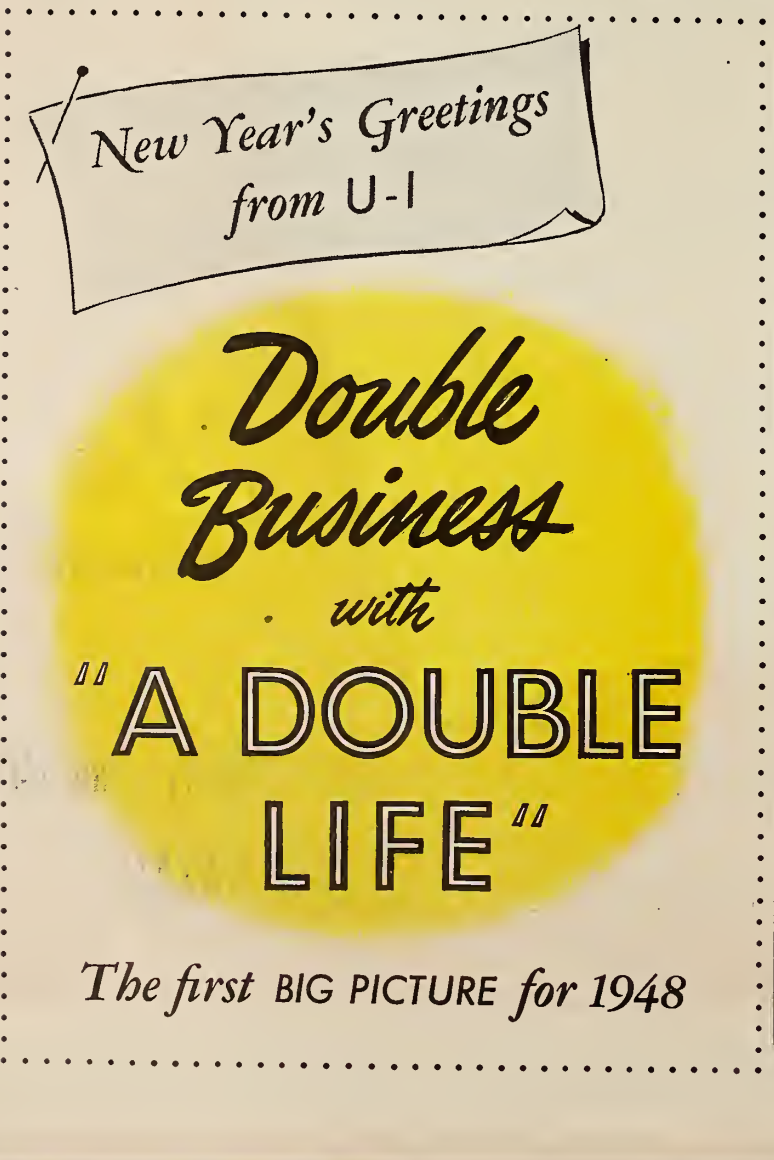
"Wild Horse Mesa"

(*RKO Radio*)

WITH Tim Holt in the saddle, Zane Grey's "Wild Horse Mesa" is a run-of-the-mill Western which kicks up a lot of dust over the corralling and selling of wild horses. Holt is personable and entirely at ease, while the rest of the cast, including Nan Leslie, Richard Martin, Richard Powers, Jason Robards and Tony Barrett are all reliable. Herman Schlom produced and Walace A. Grissell directed, from a screenplay by Norman Houston. Sid Rogell was executive producer.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 15.

Irving Kaplan



"Out of the Past"

(*RKO Radio*)

WARREN DUFF'S production was designed apparently to serve up excitement for excitement's sake, and it may leave many who see it too limp to try to figure it out. It may do surprising business, with word-of-mouth figuring strongly in that connection.

Robert Mitchum and Jane Greer co-star—he playing a stone-faced ex-detective who falls victim to a colossal frame-up, she in the role of a two-faced beauty whose capacity for deceiving men is utterly phenomenal. Providing suport commensurate with the principals' forceful performances are Kirk Douglas, as a suave, grinning arch-villain; Paul Valentine, Douglas' sinister aide; Rhonda Fleming, the sweet country gal Mitchum could have married had not Miss Greer marked him for death; Steve Brodie, Mitchum's greedy pal whom Miss Greer murders also.

Jacques Tourneur directed, with plenty of wallop, from a Geoffrey Homes screenplay which whisks audiences from California to Mexico and back in its breathless recitation of implausibilities. Homes' novel, "Build My Gallows High," was the source material. Shrewd Mitchum and Miss Greer fall for each other when Douglas, whom she had shot, sends the detective to Mexico to find her. Later she returns to Douglas who seeks vengeance by trying to frame Mitchum, now a gas station owner, for a murder. Before the end the three, and a number of others, meet violent deaths.

Running time, 97 minutes. General classification. December release.

Charles L. Franke

"Driftwood"

(*Republic*)

THE familiar story of the country doctor trying to bring medical advances to a custom-bound community is told here in familiar manner. Dean Jagger is the man of medicine, and his dedicated tasks are made all the more complicated by the adoption of an orphan, Natalie Wood. Little Miss Wood, however, is no ordinary child. Reared on the Bible, she has a habit of always telling the absolute truth, and this results in many complications. Others in the cast who round out the comedy drama are Walter Brennan, Ruth Warrick, Charlotte Greenwood, and Jerome Cowan.

The original screenplay, by Mary Loos and Richard Sale, has the community coming to its senses when an epidemic of spotted-fever breaks out. Miss Wood falls victim and things look gloomy, until it is discovered that a collie dog which the child had picked up has a special blood which has been used as a serum against the fever. When the final curtain comes down, there is a new hospital coming for the community. Allan Dwan directed.

Running time, 88 minutes. General audience classification.

Mandel Herbstman

"The Fighting Vigilantes"

(*PRC—Eagle-Lion*)

A ROUTINE Western with little novelty, "The Fighting Vigilantes" brings "Lash" Larue and Al "Fuzzy" St. John into action, first on the side of wrong, represented by George Chesebro, and later on the side of the vigilantes. Produced by Jerry Thomas and directed by Ray Taylor, from an original by Robert B. Churchill, the film has Jennifer Holt and Lee Morgan among those abetting the action.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 22.

I. K.

Federation Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

thropies of New York will be activated.

Presiding at the luncheon will be Si Fabian, chairman of the amusement division of the drive to raise $15,000,000 for welfare and community activities; the entertainment world's quota is $325,000.

Meetings at which the role to be played by each branch of the amusement business was discussed were brought to an end on Friday when Fabian held conferences with Jerry Danzig, chairman of the radio committee; Henry Jaffe, co-chairman of the entertainment committee, and Barney Balaban, chairman of the corporate gifts committee.

Radio Sets Increase

Washington, Nov. 16.—A total of 3,761,271 radio and television receivers were produced by member-companies during the third quarter of 1947, raising the total number of sets of all types produced so far this year to 12,371,915, the Radio Manufacturers Association reports.

fly
"the Los Angeles"
United's DC-6 Mainliner 300
Luxury Flight
Leave New York 12 noon
Arrive Los Angeles 9:00 p.m.
UNITED AIR LINES
Airlines Terminal, 80 E. 42nd St. or
Pennsylvania Hotel or 1 Wall St.
Call Murray Hill 2-7300
or an authorized travel agent

Goldwyn Award

(Continued from page 1)

sociation president Eric Johnston. Finally, Goldwyn visited President Truman at the White House.

Goldwyn told the President that the House Committee on Un-American Activities was "smearing an industry which has been the greatest medium in showing democracy in our way of life." He said that "there never has been and never will be Communism in ours."

"I believe in Congressional investigation," the producer said, "but the Thomas committee has been un-American in its handling of this investigation."

Goldwyn also discussed the British 75 per cent film tax with Truman and with British theatre owner Sir Alexander King, whom Goldwyn saw in the morning. The producer outlined for King the particular problem of the independents.

The citation accompanying the Presidential Award said, in part: "You organized and were first chairman of the Hollywood Permanent Charities Committee, chief purpose of which was the raising of funds for the American Red Cross, the USO, and other agencies during the war," and "training films were produced at your studios, which were always at the disposal of the Government. . . ."

The MPA luncheon was attended by Secretary of State Marshall, Secretary of Defense Forrestal, Chief of Staff Eisenhower, Assistant Secretary of State Armour, Undersecretary of the Treasury Wiggins, Presidential military aide Major-General Vaughan, Spyros Skouras, Secretary Royall, Sir Alexander King, British theatre owner, and MPA officials Francis Harmon, Joyce O'Hara, Edward Cheyfitz, George Borthwick and Kenneth Clark.

Present at the award ceremonies at the Pentagon were Attorney General Clark, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, Postmaster General Hannegan, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, Eric Johnston, General Vaughan, Undersecretary of the Interior Chapman, George Skouras, and Democratic Party official Gael Sullivan.

Six Newsreelmen Cited by Navy

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Six Washington newsreel representatives received the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award over the weekend from Secretary of the Navy John L. Sullivan.

The awards, the first of their kind, were presented to Carter Barron, M-G-M; J. C. Brown, News of the Day; Robert Denton, Paramount; George Dorsey, Warner Brothers; James Lyons, Universal; and Tony Muto, Fox Movietone. A seventh award will be made soon on the Coast to William L. Guthrie, Warner.

Form Drive-in Circuit

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 16. — Louis A. Arru, owner of the Skyway Drive-In Theatre, at Buechel, and A. Edward Campbell, owner of the Lyric, Louisville, have formed American Drive-In Co. to build and operate drive-ins in Kentucky and surrounding states.

Canada Exports Widely

OTTAWA, Nov. 16.—The Department of Trade and Commerce reports that motion picture apparatus was exported to 52 countries.

We almost broke the rule

against quoting theatre receipts in advertising! It sure takes a lot of will-power not to come right out and tell you the exact dollars-and-cents figures on latest "GOLDEN EARRINGS" openings.

We'd like to tell you the actual gross of that first week in Milwaukee, for instance, and precisely what it opened to in Butte, and the certified comparison grosses with some of the biggest hits of this whole year in Greenville and Raleigh and Bethlehem and Buffalo. But the boys in the theatres that played it can tell you, and we'd be happy to have you write them.

They'll quote you figures that will absolutely change your whole conception of this show's potentialities, that rank it unmistakably in the top-hit class...all provided, of course, that you give it proper handling. *We'll* tell you about *that* if you want to know how to really get that gold in "GOLDEN EARRINGS."

Gleefully yours,

PARAMOUNT

"Golden Earrings" is a hit song, too! Have you heard Dinah Shore and other top stars singing it on the air? These plugs, plus Dinah's and Peggy Lee's best-selling recordings, are helping make America "Golden Earrings"-conscious.

RAY MILLAND • MARLENE DIETRICH in "GOLDEN EARRINGS" with MURVYN VYE • BRUCE LESTER REINHOLD SCHUNZEL • DENNIS HOEY • QUENTIN REYNOLDS • A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION PRODUCED BY HARRY TUGEND • DIRECTED BY MITCHELL LEISEN • SCREEN PLAY BY ABRAHAM POLONSKY, FRANK BUTLER AND HELEN DEUTSCH • FROM THE NOVEL BY YOLANDA FOLDES

PROPHET of PROFIT!

It's the *line to your Box Office* . . . that is "crossed with *Silver*" . . . and plenty of *greenbacks*, too . . . When The PRIZE BABY starts his *advance-telling* . . . from your Lobby Front and Screen . . . about your COMING ATTRACTIONS . . . that foretell the *coming of Patrons* . . . a prophecy of Bigger *Grosses* . . .and Bigger *Profits* . . . all *in the palm of your hand* . . . if you use The PRIZE BABY's Trailers and Accessories . . . to *tell* your *Patrons* . . . and *foretell* YOUR *fortune!*

He's your PROPHET of PROFIT! . . . Prize Baby of the Industry!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 97 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1947 TEN CENTS

Geneva Pacts Promise Film Relief Abroad

Discriminations Would Be Cut by Agreements

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. — Trade agreements recently concluded by the U. S. at Geneva, text of which was released today for the first time by the State Department, offer a few rays of hope for the distant future of the U. S. film industry overseas, but no very great prospect for relief now.

Most significant portion is Article IV of the general agreement, drawn up with such countries as the United Kingdom, France, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Australia and Brazil. This rules out all devices for protecting domestic films other than screen-time quotas. Under its terms, there can be no renter or distributor quota,

(*Continued on page* 3)

See Little Chance Of Canada in MPF

There appears to be little likelihood that the Canadian film industry will be invited to participate in the U. S. industry's Motion Picture Foundation, according to MPF sources here. Several months ago representatives of Canadian exhibition suggested to Foundation organizing leaders that consideration be given to possible inclusion of Canadian industry philanthropies within the framework of the U. S. Foundation.

Canada's proposal will be one of the principal items on the agenda for the Foundation's national trustees when they meet here on Dec. 8-9 to set in motion national MPF operations. It

(*Continued on page* 3)

Contempt Citations To House on Monday

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The full House Un-American Activities Committee today approved the contempt citations of 10 actors, writers and directors voted by a subcommittee during the recent hearings on alleged Communism in Hollywood. Committee also voted to seek to present the citations to the House for approval next Monday.

Only one member—Rep. Wood (D., Ga.)—was absent. Another member, Rep. Herbert C. Bonner (D., N. C.), resigned earlier today to "devote more time to other committees."

Tilted Scales Increase at N. Y. 1st-Runs

Advanced admission prices are on the upswing at New York's first-runs with the fourth show within a month to be played at a tilted scale —"Gentleman's Agreement" hitting a $2.40 top at the Mayfair—and still another, "Mourning Becomes Electra," due this week at the Golden, also at $2.40.

The $2.40 asking price for "Agreement" probably represents one of the highest tilts of its class in many months here, since the Mayfair, a Brandt house, is playing the film on a continuous basis with no reserved seats. The Golden will operate on a reserved-seat policy.

"Forever Amber" is still at a $1.80 top at the Roxy, on a 30-cent increase and the Globe is offering "Body and Soul" also at $1.80, representing a 40-cent jump. "Unconquered" led the current parade here with a boosted scale, at $1.80, at the Rivoli, but two weeks after its opening public resistance was felt at the box-office and the house cut to $1.50.

According to the Mayfair's competitors the high price for "Agree-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Gulf States Invites All Independents

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 17.—Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States, formed in the New Orleans exchange area some six months ago and at present consisting of 120 theatres, has extended invitations to all independent exhibitors to attend the first independent meeting of its kind to be held here in many years on Thursday and Friday.

Some of those to be heard include Abram F. Myers, general counsel and

(*Continued on page* 3)

Kans.-Mo. Plans a Series of Regionals

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 17.—The board of directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association, meeting at the Hotel Philips here, appointed a committee to seek space for a headquarters office in Kansas City, and also decided that the regional conferences of last year will be followed with a

(*Continued on page* 3)

More Support for Ascap Tax Fights

Minneapolis, Nov. 17.—Representative Harold Hagen (ninth district, Minnesota) is in "complete sympathy" with Allied's proposal to amend the copyright law, pertaining to provisions of the act under which Ascap collects a license fee from theatres for music rights performance, and favors abolishment of the Federal 20 per cent tax on admissions.

The veteran member of congress told Stanley D. Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, that he may introduce a bill himself to kill the ticket tax if such legislation is not proposed and acted upon by constituted committees.

Friendship Train Will Arrive Today

Climaxing its journey across the country during which it stopped in over 50 cities picking up food contributions for the French and Italians, the Friendship Food Train, under the guidance of national chairman Harry M. Warner, will arrive in New York today with over 200 carloads of food contributions assured.

Ceremonies for the train's arrival will begin at 11:30 A.M. with a Friendship Food Parade from the Battery and concluding with activities at City Hall. The parade will consist of members of various French and Italian organizations in New York, the dignitaries arriving on the train

(*Continued on page* 3)

'306' Board Studies Walsh Negotiations

Executive board and negotiating committee of projectionists local No. 306, IATSE, met here yesterday with local president Herman Gelber to confer on what was said to be dissatisfaction with "IA" international president Richard F. Walsh's handling of wage increase negotiations with affiliated circuits here. Walsh had been invited to enter the situation when an impasse arose after many meetings between the local's negotiating committee and circuit representatives. A 306 spokesman said no definite conclusions were reached at yesterday's meeting.

Principal bone of contention is said

(*Continued on page* 3)

Re-Formation Of W.A.C. Is Envisioned

Cued by Truman's Bid For U.S. Bond Campaign

Rebirth of the War Activities Committee, was envisioned by film executives here yesterday following President Truman's observation that "the Government should intensify its vigorous efforts to sell savings bonds."

Although the chief executive's reference to the matter was limited to the above quotes, theatre and distribution executives expressed the belief that a nationwide campaign to promote the public's investment in Government bonds is in prospect and the industry will be called upon to lend its full support.

Conversations concerning the reconstruction of at least one state unit, unnamed, of WAC actually began yesterday, within a few hours after Truman's speech to Congress.

Breen Denies Myers' Charges of 'Laxity'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Joseph I. Breen, Production Code administrator, cited records of picture classifications of the National Legion of Decency from Nov., 1943, to Nov., 1947, to refute recent charges contained in an Allied States bulletin that "the situation of indecency in pictures has again been allowed to get out of hand."

In a letter to Myers released here today, Breen states that only two pictures, one of them the British-made

(*Continued on page* 3)

Name Lind Monogram Eastern Sales Head

Lloyd L. Lind, president of Pictorial Films, 16mm. affiliate of Pathe Industries, will succeed Arthur Greenblatt as Eastern sales manager of Allied Artists-Monogram, it is understood. Greenblatt has joined Screen Guild Productions in an executive capacity.

Although Lind yesterday declined to confirm or deny the report, it was said that Allied Artists-Monogram president Steve Broidy is expected to announce Lind's appointment officially in a few days.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox assistant general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago where he will open a series of Midwest regional sales meetings on Thursday.

•

MARLENE DIETRICH will receive the "Medal for Freedom," highest civilian War department decoration, today at West Point for her wartime entertainment services.

•

STEPHEN S. JACKSON, assistant to JOSEPH I. BREEN, has taken over administration of the Production Code for the next three months during the latter's vacation.

•

GEORGE BAGNALL, United Artists vice-president in charge of production, arrived here from Hollywood yesterday.

•

ANDRE LELARGE, European Copyright and Distribution, Inc., is expected back in New York tomorrow from Paris.

•

GIL SOUTO, Walt Disney Studios foreign publicity director, is in town from Rio de Janeiro.

•

CHARLES OELREICH, RKO Theatres Bronx division manager, and MRS. OELREICH are parents of a daughter.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, left here last night for Buffalo.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio sales manager, has returned here from Hollywood.

•

ALBERT DEZEL, president of Albert Dezel Prod., is due here tomorrow from Detroit.

•

LEO M. BRODY, Eagle-Lion publicity manager, and MRS. BRODY became parents of a daughter Sunday.

Report MGM Maps Economy Measures

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Realignment of top M-G-M personnel, coupled with unconfirmed reports of "substantial economy measures," is expected as a result of executive conferences which began here last week with the arrival of Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew's vice-president and treasurer. Moskowitz is scheduled to return to New York Wednesday, following conclusion of the parleys tomorrow.

Frank Wead, 52

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 17.—Frank Wead, 52, scenario writer, died Saturday night in Santa Monica Hospital, according to press reports here. A Navy aviator in the first World War, Wead turned to writing in 1927. Among the films to his credit were: "Dirigible," "Hell Divers," "Ceiling Zero," "The Citadel" and "They Were Expendable." Surviving are two sisters and two brothers.

News Briefs . . .

"FOREVER AMBER" will not be shown in local neighborhood and suburban theatres which are members of the Greater Cincinnati Independent Theatres Association, according to a resolution passed by the organization in that city.

"Our members feel that 'Forever Amber' and pictures of this type are not suitable for showing in neighborhood theatres, many of which are patronized by family groups," the resolution stated.

Siegel Organizes a New Coast Producing Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Dave Siegel, president of Triumph Pictures, Inc., and associate producer of "Angel on My Shoulder," has formed another producing company, David W. Siegel Productions. It already has its first picture, "Mickey," before the cameras at Eagle-Lion Studios. Ralph Murphy is directing, and Siegel is producing.

Another $100,000 from Annual 'Stars' Performance

Carrying the endorsement and support of President Truman, Governor Dewey, Mayor O'Dwyer and more than 1,500 stars, technicians, musicians and workers, the 14th annual "Night of Stars" show for refugee relief and Palestine resettlement, took place last night at Madison Square Garden. Proceeds go to the United Jewish Appeal of New York. The show annually grosses over $100,000.

15,000 Theatres Playing 'Power Behind Nation'

Warners' "Power Behind the Nation" may set an all time high for theatre business in the two-reel field, according to a report to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, which is sponsoring the short, from Norman H. Moray, Warner short subject sales chief.

"In 60 days of selling," Morey said, "we have gathered 8,000 contracts, indicating a playoff in 15,000 theatres."

RKO Exchange Burns

RKO Radio's exchange at Port of Spain, Trinidad, was destroyed by fire on Sunday, E. C. Telfer, manager, reports to Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution in New York.

CLEVELAND independents, at a meeting of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, failed to go on record in any concerted price boost move. Following a detailed explanation by city official Stanley Nemic on the method for computing the city amusement tax, members agreed that price boosts, if any, must be determined by individual owners.

20th Century-Fox Sales Meet in Cleveland Today

CLEVELAND, Nov. 17.—I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox branch manager, and Harry Weiss, publicity director, will attend a two-day division meeting headed by Howard Minsky in Cincinnati tomorrow and Wednesday. In addition to branch managers and publicity men from the Cleveland, Cincinnati and Indianapolis office, district manager J. J. Grady will also be present.

700 Chicago Theatre Workers Get Raises

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Pay raises of 15 cents per hour for 650 house workers, and eight cents per hour for 50 janitresses and matrons, retroactive to July 1, have been negotiated with Loop and outlying theatres by Thomas J. Burke, president of Office, Theatre and Amusement Building Janitors Union Local No. 25, AFL. The contract became effective today. Janitors will now receive $1.20½ per hour, while janitresses and matrons will get 88 cents.

SAG Elects Reagan; Hits Communism

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—The Screen Actors Guild elected Ronald Reagan president last night, and by resolution decreed that no one shall be eligible for office unless he signs an affidavit that he is not a Communist.

Other officers elected were: Gene Kelly, William Holden and Walter Pidgeon, vice-presidents and Olivia de Havilland, treasurer. Leon Ames defeated Marsha Hunt for secretary.

FWC Settlement Due

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 17.—IATSE projectionists' Local No. 150 anticipates a settlement of its controversy with Fox West Coast early this week, when a complaint filed by individual operators before the State Labor Bureau comes up for a hearing, according to union officials. No further walkouts are expected before midweek in any case.

Ray Murray, 67

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow afternoon at the Utter-McKinley Mortuary, Glendale, for Ray Murray, 67, veteran film journalist, who died on Friday following a year's illness. Murray joined Exhibitors' Herald in 1916 following a post on the New York *Morning Telegraph*. He became Quigley Hollywood representative in 1924, resigning in 1927. He represented several fan magazines and did free-lance writing thereafter until stricken a year ago. A daughter, Mrs. Roland Loop, and a brother survive.

Arthur S. Friend, 68

Arthur Sumner Friend, 68, counsel for many stage and screen figures, who in 1910 aided in the formation of the Jesse L. Lasky Feature Play Co. and later helped merge the company with Famous Players into Paramount, died here yesterday at his home. He also served as president of Distinctive Pictures Corp., creating a furore in 1923 by calling for film production in New York. A daughter and sister survive. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 11 A.M. at the Universal Funeral Chapel, here.

Buffalo Trial in Feb.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Suit by the Rivoli Theatre, Buffalo, against distributing companies and the Shea Circuit regarding elimination of clearances is expected to reach trial in mid-February, according to Thomas McConnel, local attorney for the plaintiff, who returned here from Buffalo yesterday.

United Sets Dividend

OTTAWA, Nov. 17.—United Amusement Corp. has declared a dividend [illegible] 50 cents per share, plus an extra dividend of 50 cents, on outstanding capital stock, payable on Nov. 28 to shareholders of record on Nov. 14.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

14th WEEK!
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN HELD OVER!
RED SKELTON
IN M-G-M's
'MERTON OF THE MOVIES'
IN PERSON
BETTY BRUCE
June RICHMOND
GAUDSMITH BROS.
RED BUTTONS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. and J. Arthur Rank present
JOHN MILLS • MARTHA SCOTT • PATRICIA ROC
in JAMES HILTON'S
So Well Remembered

ALAN LADD • DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON • LLOYD NOLAN
in "WILD HARVEST"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
THE KING COLE TRIO
CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA!
RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQ.
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald. Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Geneva Pacts

(*Continued from page 1*)

no discriminatory taxes, no trading of special privileges with other countries, and none of the other discriminatory devices. This is similar to a provision in the International Trade Organization charter, which comes up for ratification at Havana late this month.

State Department officials were quick to point out, however, that this would not help out in the current British situation and in most of the other tax developments taking place abroad, since import duties are still allowed as long as they are not discriminatory.

Largest concession obtained by the U. S. industry in the bilateral agreements is from Canada, which has agreed to reduce its rates on positive films from the present 2¼ cents per foot to 1½ cents, the same as for British pictures, and to reduce the duty on negative films from 25 per cent to 10 per cent.

The terms of the general agreement and the specific tariff schedules go into effect "provisionally" on Jan. 1. But that can be delayed some months if enabling legislation must be enacted in the foreign countries.

Article IV, the department says, "recognizes that the economic peculiarities of the film industry make import duties an unsuitable device for affording legitimate protection to national film industries." As a counterpart of import duties, then, the article establishes for the film trade alone an approved protective device in the form of screen quotas, which reserve a portion of screen time for domestic films. Screen quotas are negotiable in the same manner as tariffs.

No screen time other than that reserved for domestic films may be allocated in any manner. A few existing preferential film quotas are permitted to continue, but their incidence may not be increased, and no new quotas of this type may be introduced.

Another portion of the general agreement recognized restrictions on remittances, but only to the extent necessary to safeguard a country's balance of payments and currency, not for discriminatory purposes.

'306' Board Sifts

(*Continued from page 1*)

to be the affiliated circuits' demand for a contract clause which would permit reduction of wages to the level of independent theatres if competitive bidding is upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry's anti-trust suit. Affiliateds are said to hold that enforced bidding would have the affiliateds competing with independents on the same level.

Reviews

"Check Your Guns"

(*Eagle-Lion*)

NO sooner does Eddie Dean become sheriff of lawless Red Gap than he nails up a notice that all townsfolk must check their guns. The order does not go well with some of the more hardened gun-toters, and so a Western of usual proportions results.

Between the gunplay and fisticuffs, Dean finds time to warble several numbers, including "God's Little Lanterns," "Moseyin' Along" and "A Miserable Ornery Coyote." The comedy touch is provided by Roscoe Ates, with Nancy Gates heading up the feminine department, and Stan Jolley serving as the heavy. Action is stressed in the Joseph O'Donnell original screenplay which sees to it that all get their just desserts in the end. Jerry Thomas produced and Ray Taylor directed.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Whispering City"

(*Quebec Productions—Eagle-Lion*)

FUSION of most of the entertainment ingredients—a reliable cast headed by Helmut Dantine and Paul Lukas, a potentially engrossing tale in the psychological-murder genre and a competent script temperately handled, for the most part, all adds up to a passable offering but a box-office uncertainty in "Whispering City." Injudicious editing and a leisurely pace not suited to the tempo of the story are the principal flaws. However, exhibitors who have pleased patrons with previous productions in this vein may find this one dependable.

Produced by George Marton, from an original by George Zuckerman and Michael Lennox, the film presents Dantine as a distraught composer who is being drained emotionally and creatively by a neurotic wife, portrayed by Joy LaFleur. Lukas, an attorney with enough wealth to assume the role of Dantine's patron, betrays his worry over an unsolved murder being unearthed by reporter Mary Anderson and plots Miss Anderson's murder by Dantine. He tricks Dantine into believing that Miss LaFleur, a suicide, was killed by the composer, and the latter, ensnared, embarks on the plot. But it all ends happily with Miss Anderson and Dantine embracing. Fedor Ozep directed, Paul L'Anglais was executive producer and Gina Kaus, Hugh Kemp and Sydney Banks wrote the dialogue for the screenplay by Rian James and Leonard Lee.

Running time, 98 minutes. General audience classification. Release date; not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

Gulf States Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

chairman of National Allied; Col. H. A. Cole, president of Allied of Texas; A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager of Universal; J. H. (Tommie) Thompson, president of the Independent Exhibitors of Georgia; E. D. Martin, of Martin Theatres, Atlanta; W. J. Turnbull and H. D. Epting of National Theatre Supply.

Breen Denies

(*Continued from page 1*)

"Black Narcissus," have received the "C," or condemned, rating of the Legion in the last four years. The second was "Forever Amber." Pictures given the "B" or objectionable in part rating by the Legion represented 13 per cent of the total classified during the past two years and 12 per cent during the two preceding years.

"It seems to me," Breen wrote, "that in the face of these figures it is not true to say that there has been any 'laxity in Code enforcement' or that there is any 'situation of indecency' in pictures."

Canada Not in MPF

(*Continued from page 1*)

is understood that there will be no resolution on the Canadian question, either for or against it, offered to the meeting.

Principal objection to including Canada in the Foundation is said to be that the industries of other Western Hemisphere countries also might seek inclusion in a philanthropic setup which was designed solely for aiding film needy in the U. S.

Friendship Train

(*Continued from page 1*)

and a city band. The parade route will be lined with school children.

Ceremonies at City Hall will start at 12:30 P.M., in time for a half-hour radio broadcast. There will be addresses by Mayor O'Dwyer as well as speeches by the French and Italian Ambassadors.

Local and national radio stations have been contributing extensive time to "plugging" the train.

Although Harry Warner will be unable to be present at the ceremonies, he sent a message of congratulations from California on behalf of the national committee.

N. Y. 1st-Runs

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment" ($2.40 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday late afternoons and evenings) is working to their benefit because, they say, many potential Mayfair customers are balking at the tariff and patronizing other houses in the area. The Monday through Thursday evening tickets sell at $1.80.

The Mayfair management counters this with its report of a gross of $73,000 for the first six days at the 1,700-seat house.

With few exceptions, current week's grosses at the first-runs are fairly strong. Estimated returns follow:

"Cass Timberlane," with a stage show at the Music Hall, second week, $125,000; "Wild Harvest," Randy Brooks' orchestra on stage, Paramount, first week, $75,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, $65,000; "Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, fifth week, $35,000; "Escape Me Never," Frankie Carle's orchestra on stage, Strand, second week, $49,000; "Forever Amber," stage show, Roxy, fourth, $75,000; "So Well Remembered," Palace, second, $21,000; "Upturned Glass," Winter Garden, second, $13,000; "Life with Father," Warner, 14th week, $18,000.

Also, "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 14th week, $26,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, sixth, $34,000; "The Gangster," Victoria, third, $13,000; "Beware of Pity," Park, third, $4,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 13th week, $8,000; "Tawny Pipit," Little Carnegie, 11th week, $4,200.

Kans.-Mo. Regionals

(*Continued from page 1*)

similar series, the first to be at Hays, Kans., in December. The committee on plans is composed of Ralph Larned of the Paramount, LaCrosse, Dale Danielson of the Dream, Russell, and Don Philips of the Colby, Colby all in Kansas.

Legislative committees respectively for the Kansas and Missouri legislative sessions will be appointed, to work with R. R. Biechele of the Osage, Kansas City, public relations representative of the association. The board went on record as retaining Al Williams, Topeka, and Byron Spencer, Kansas City, as legal and legislative counsel. Jay Means of the Oak Park, Kansas City, was appointed by Homer Strowig, president, as delegate to attend the UNESCO conference in Wichita, on Dec. 13.

One of four Re-Releases by Screencraft Pictures Inc.

IT'S **LOADED**... FOR THRILLS... ***FOR BOX OFFICE!***

FABULOUS

FELICITATIONS FROM CRITICS.

FABULOUS

FIGURES AT THE BOX OFFICE.

FABULOUS

FAVORITE OF ALL AUDIENCES.

THE FABULOUS

starring

William ELLIOTT · John CARROLL · Catherine McLEOD

Screen Play by LAWRENCE HAZARD and HORACE McCOY • Original Story by HAL LONG • Directed

SHOULD LURE 'EM IN ALL OVER
. . . Stirring action.
Film Daily

Top budget western should attract attention.
Exhibitor

GOOD MARQUEE ATTRACTION
. . . All members of family should like it. Should do excellent business everywhere. Pace throughout fast. Plenty of moments of suspense. Interest for feminine moviegoers.
Showmen's Trade Review

SURE BOXOFFICE WINNER
. . . Sock outdoor action. Stacks up in money class. Exciting as it is timely. Direction standout. John Carroll definite bet . . . potentially new star. William Elliott box-office insurance.
Hollywood Reporter

Big Texas Epic.
Dallas Morning News

Republic gets an "A" for Texas film. Exciting screen entertainment. A step forward in action pictures.
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Top grosses for world premiere and 300 day-and-date engagements!

Word-of-mouth says . . . "An outdoor epic the world's movie fans will enjoy."

TEXAN

ith Albert DEKKER • Andy DEVINE
atricia KNIGHT • Ruth DONNELLY • Johnny SANDS
arry DAVENPORT • Robert H. BARRAT • Douglass DUMBRILLE
y Edward LUDWIG • Associate Producer Edmund GRAINGER

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

STILL SLAYING 'EM IN N. Y. AND DETROIT!

SAN FRANCISCO NOW CAUGHT IN MIGHTY GRIP OF THE GANGSTER!

RKO GOLDEN GATE THEATRE MOBBED AS NEW SHOCKER RUNS WILD AGAIN!

It's an **ALLIED ARTISTS'** *Sensation!*

"THE
GANGSTER"

A KING BROS. PRODUCTION

starring
BARRY SULLIVAN • BELITA • JOAN LORRING *with* AKIM TAMIROFF
HENRY MORGAN • JOHN IRELAND • ELISHA COOK, Jr. • SHELDON LEONARD
Produced by MAURICE and FRANK KING • Directed by Gordon Wiles • Screenplay by Daniel Fuchs, from his novel "Low Company"
An Allied Artists Production

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 98 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1947 TEN CENTS

Tax Divides UK Labor on Nationalizing

NATKE, ACT at Odds; Showdown Impending

LONDON, Nov. 18.—The British *ad valorem* tax impasse has divided industry labor here into two camps on the question of nationalization of British films.

This became apparent today with the issuance of a policy statement by the executive council of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, following a meeting at which preparations were made for a Nov. 24 British Board of Trade conference at which the British Film Producers Association and the Film Industry Employees Council will state their respective views on the future of production in England.

In its statement NATKE holds that it is necessary for the government to extend any assistance required to sustain British production. This is interpreted as a virtual plea for abrogation of the *ad valorem* tax which would

(*Continued on page* 5)

4-Day MGM Meet Starts Here Dec. 2

M-G-M will hold a four-day sales conference of field sales managers and their assistants at the Hotel Astor, here, starting Dec. 2. William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, will preside.

From the field the following sales managers and assistants will attend: George A. Hickey, Los Angeles, and

(*Continued on page* 5)

Johnston Calls Meet On 'Subversiveness'

Production chiefs representing major and independent film studios will assemble here from Hollywood next Monday with Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, to weigh problems presented by alleged "subversive" activities of persons in the industry, the MPA said here yesterday. Johnston, who called the meeting, will also confer with other top industry executives.

Warner, Skourases Hailed by Mayor on Food Train Arrival

The Friendship Food Train—more than 200 cars of food, instead of only 160, as originally hoped for—arrived in New York City yesterday, and one of the largest groups of press, radio and newsreel representatives ever to cover a civic event here heard Mayor O'Dwyer and columnist Drew Pearson, in the City Hall ceremonies that marked the occasion, pay tribute to Harry M. Warner, chairman of the National Food Train Committee, and his industry associates, including Charles and George Skouras, among others.

In a parade, from the Battery to City Hall, participants included Pearson, French and Italian diplomats, Boy Scouts, French and Italian associations, guests who arrived in New York aboard the New York Central

(*Continued on page* 5)

Pioneers to Admit 44 Members Tonight

With Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, as the principal speaker and producer-actor George Jessel as toastmaster, the Picture Pioneers will hold its eighth annual dinner tonight at the Plaza Hotel, here, at which 44 new members will be inducted.

Among highlights of the dinner will be the presentation of scrolls of honor to Adolph Zukor, chairman of the

(*Continued on page* 4)

Canada Film Barrier Still Not Unlikely

Washington, Nov. 18.—A spokesman for the Canadian Ambassador here admitted today that there has been some talk in official circles of restricting film imports from the United States into Canada, but declared that there had been no decision to do so as yet.

U-I Steps Up 1948 Schedule

Universal-International is stepping up its releasing schedule for 1948 to between 38 and 40 features, in comparison to 27 released in 1947, William A. Scully, U-I vice-president and general sales manager indicated here yesterday in setting the release of 14 from the present through April, 1948. A dozen films already completed will keep the U-I sales force supplied with product into next Summer, it was said.

Starting immediately, U-I is releasing Douglas Fairbanks' "The Exile" and J. Arthur Rank's "The Upturned Glass." During December, "Pirates of Monterey," in Technicolor, will be released, also Fritz Lang's Diana Production, "The Secret Beyond the Door." In January "A Woman's Vengeance" and Nunally Johnson's "The Senator Was Indiscreet," to be followed in February with Mark Hellinger's "The Naked City," Michael Kanin's "A Double Life" and J. Ar-

(*Continued on page* 5)

'Mourning Becomes Electra'

[*RKO Radio*]—The Greeks Had a Word for It

SIXTEEN years ago, the Theatre Guild produced a trilogy by the renowned Eugene O'Neill. The three plays, in a total of 13 acts, under the single title of "Mourning Becomes Electra," struck a new note in the American theatre.

Drawn from classic Greek drama, their plot-outline bore acknowledged resemblance to the "Oresteia" of Aeschylus. Exercising his dramatic license, O'Neill hurtled through countless centuries to fix the locale of his counterpart in New England at the close of the Civil War.

What suggested "Mourning Becomes Electra," however, will be of considerably less interest to the businessman purveying mass entertainment than an appraisal of its content. That content is intensely tragic, persistently depressing in unwholesome key and clearly not entertainment as it is understood in the general public mind. Furthermore, "Electra" actually is a stage play confined entirely to the house of the unsavory Mannon family and, like any stage play contained within its physical limitations, sends its principals off on discourse and dialogue. It is true the dialogue is faithful to O'Neill and is designed to progress the sombre

(*Continued on page* 4)

Projectors on List of Items In Canada Ban

Films Not Included in New Emergency Measure

OTTAWA, Nov. 18.—Canada's sweeping new emergency measure to conserve American dollars extends to a ban on motion picture projectors, sound equipment, studio and theatre spotlights, air conditioning equipment and related electronic and other equipment. Films for theatres were not included.

The bans are termed temporary, perhaps for a relatively few months. It is suggested that their removal will occur as soon as possible by continuous consultations with American authorities.

Motion picture cameras for non-professional use are included in the banning, and so are theatre and other types of organs and pianos, among numerous so-called "luxury" items. Electric fixtures, lamps, bulbs and

(*Continued on page* 5)

Canadian Building Seen Hit By Ban

TORONTO, Nov. 18.—While new restrictive measures imposed today by the Dominion Government to conserve dollars do not affect the importation of films from the United States or other countries it is believed certain here that the import prohibitions will prevent the completion of some new theatres in Canada. This is because on the prohibited import list are projectors, sound systems, air-conditioning units and other theatre equipment.

A trade survey shows comparatively few projection and sound units are available in Canada because there has been a high post-war demand in the United States.

WB in 2-Film Deal With British Unit

Alfred Hitchcock and Sidney Bernstein have completed a deal with Warner Brothers for the worldwide distribution of two Technicolor films, "Rope," starring James Stewart, and "Under Capricorn," starring Ingrid Bergman. The contract was signed by

(*Continued on page* 5)

Personal Mention

MARTIN G. SMITH, Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio president and past president of National Allied, is in town from Toledo.

●

HERMAN M. LEVY, Theatre Owners of America general counsel, was one of the judges Monday night at the Columbia University Law School's "moot course" trial.

●

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, is due in Buffalo today from New York, accompanied by TURHAN BEY.

●

BEN GRIEFER, managing director of the Paramount and Adams theatres, Newark, N. J., and MRS. GRIEFER are parents of a daughter.

●

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Indianapolis.

●

JERRY PICKMAN, Eagle-Lion assistant advertising-publicity chief, will leave here today for Birmingham, Ala.

●

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio foreign distribution chief, received the Mexican "Gold Medal of Honor" during his recent trip to Mexico City.

●

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M short subject sales, left here yesterday on a trip through the South and Midwest.

●

RUDOLPH WEISS, head of the Warner real estate department here, will be in Philadelphia today and in Reading tomorrow.

●

ALBERT STEINHARDT, United Artists manager in Egypt, is in town for home office conferences.

●

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, will leave here today for Boston.

●

WILLIAM CROUCH, producer, is recuperating from a virus infection at White Plains Hospital, N. Y.

Metropolitan Opera To Produce Films

Production of motion pictures of operas, with the first "Il Trovatore," slated to begin next month, has been announced here by the Metropolitan Opera Association. Friedrich Feher, composer and long associated with musical films, is president of International Opera Films, which will make the films.

Exhibition will be in theatres and schools through renting or selling, he said. A commercial film-distributing company, unnamed, will handle the films, according to Feher. Fox Movietone News studios here will be used for filming, Edward Johnson, general manager of the Metropolitan, disclosed yesterday.

News Briefs . . .

PREDICTING a freer exchange of technical information and mutual reports on video progress on both sides of the Atlantic, A. G. D. West, head of J. Arthur Rank's Cinema-Television, Ltd., left New York yesterday for London, by way of Montreal. In his month's visit to America, West visited Chicago, Toronto and Princeton for talks with television leaders.

He also talked with 20th Century-Fox executives on large-screen television projection which, said West, is the biggest single problem video presents to the industry at present.

Springer Honored on 25th Anniversary with Century

J. R. Springer, general manager of Century Theatres, yesterday celebrated a 25-year association with the company, and, in honor of the event, Century president A. A. Hovell and vice-president Fred J. Schwartz gave him a luncheon at the Hotel St. Moritz.

Reopen Eastern Cameramens' Wage Raise Negotiations

Company representatives and Walter Lang, business representative of cameramens local No. 644 (IATSE) will meet here today after a long delay in an attempt to break a deadlock in negotiations revolving around Eastern short subject cameramens' bid for a wage raise.

Several months ago the local opened negotiations on a new contract, and an $85-per-week increase over the present $165 for regular cameramen, retroactive to last July 1. Later the companies countered with an offer of an increase to $200, effective Jan. 1, whereupon the union, still adamant on the question of retroactivity, reduced its demand to $225 per week.

Walsh to Resume '306' Negotiations Tomorrow

Projectionists local No. 306 (IATSE) negotiating committee and representatives of affiliated circuits here will resume negotiations tomorrow on the former's bid for wage increases. "IA" international president Richard F. Walsh will be present.

Some time ago, when negotiations between the local and the circuits broke down Walsh was called in by 306 to work out a settlement.

7,100 Prints of 'TB' Film

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., calls attention to the 41st annual Christmas Seal Sale in a trailer which will be shown during the 1947 campaign in theatres throughout the country, according to the National Tuberculosis Association. The film was made in Hollywood by Universal International, through the cooperation of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. Approximately 7,100 prints will be distributed.

WB Releases Waxman

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Franz Waxman, musical director for Warner for the past five years, has been released from his contract.

PURCHASING heads of film companies and some circuits in the Metropolitan area conferred here yesterday with Si Fabian, amusement division chairman, on participation in the 1947 fund-raising campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

Purchasing executives who met were: Herman Maier, Warner; Max Seligman, Columbia; Harry Nadel, Paramount; Max Wolff, Loew's; Milton Green, Republic; Jules Catsiff, Skouras Theatres; Leonard Satz, Century Theatres; Nat Lapkin, Fabian Theatres. Charles L. O'Reilly, president of the Sanitary Automatic Candy Corp., and Benjamin Sherman, vice-president and treasurer of the firm, were among others who took part in the conference.

Oklahoma Group Will Meet on TOA on Dec. 8-9

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 18.—Theatre Owners of Oklahoma will meet in Oklahoma City, Dec. 8-9, to formally vote on affiliation with Theatre Owners of America.

'Electra' Opens Run at New York Golden Today

"Mourning Becomes Electra," produced for RKO Radio by Dudley Nichols in association with the Theatre Guild, will open at the Golden Theatre, here, today for an indefinite run at admission prices of $1.20-$1.80 for matinees and $1.80-$2.40 in the evening. Yesterday tickets were being sold 10 weeks in advance, according to RKO.

The Guild previously sponsored an engagement of "Henry V" at the Golden and in other key theatres throughout the country.

Harry Lamont Heads Variety in Albany; Ullman Assists

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 18.—Harry Lamont, Lamont Theatres, has been elected chief barker of the local Variety Club. Saul Ullman, Fabian upstate general manager, was elected first assistant; Arthur Newman, Republic manager, is second assistant; Eugene Lowe, Universal salesman, holds over as property-master, and Joseph Saperstein, buyer-booker for Fabian, is chief dough-guy.

Ohio Delays 'Cross'

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 18. — Screen Guild's "The Burning Cross" has been temporarily banned by the Ohio censor board, pending final decision by Dr. Clyde Hissong, chief censor.

Lt. Gov. Paul M. Herbert, counsel for the producers, said he will take court action against the board if the ban is made permanent for Ohio theatres.

Approve 'Railroaded'

CHICAGO, Nov. 18. — After cutting as recommended by the Chicago censor board, Eagle-Lion's "Railroaded" was given a general permit. The picture had been banned in September.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN addressing the special session of Congress is a highlight in all current newsreels. Other subjects include the crisis in India, the Food Train and football. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 24—President Truman addresses the special session of Congress. Storied Kashmir in India is the scene of strife. The Food Train is a huge success. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 222—Pr[illegible]dent Truman bids Congress take act[illegible] The story of hunger in Europe. War flames ravage romantic Kashmir. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 26—New crisis in India. President Truman's message to Congress. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 92—President Truman strikes at inflation. Food and labor crises face Europe. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 27—President Truman addresses Congress. "Vet's" backyard oil well. Troops move into Kashmir. Ernie Pyle's home a memorial. Football.

884 Film Houses in Minneapolis Area

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—There are 884 theatres, with a total seating capacity of 369,427, operating currently in the Minneapolis territory, according to the Minneapolis theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association will release tomorrow.

As the eighth in a series of 31 directories, the Minneapolis survey reveals that 106 theatres, with seats totaling 88,911, are in this exchange territory's three largest cities—Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth.

This means that approximately 64 per cent of all of the theatres in the Minneapolis area are located in 558 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. The 569 theatres so classified have a total seating capacity of 153,008.

Would Seek Stronger Contempt Penalties

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—House Un-American Activities Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas today told an American Legion seminar that he will seek Congressional approval of a bill increasing the penalty for contempt of Congress from the present $1,000 fine to $100,000 and from one year's imprisonment to 10.

Thomas asserted that "with such a law, we'll have no more refusals to answer committee questions." Thomas apparently has in mind the refusal of some Hollywood talent to answer questions at the recent Un-American Activities hearings in Washington.

Accept Cole Resignation

Resignation of Franklin Cole as a member of the United Artists board of directors was accepted here yesterday at a regular monthly UA board meeting. No successor has been named. Mary Pickford and George Bagnall, UA production chief, were among those present. The meeting adjourned until later this week.

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GOOD NEWS

"Good friends too."

from your friendly Leo of M·G·M!

"CASS TIMBERLANE" MUSIC HALL SMASH!

Largest 1st week M-G-M gross, with only one exception, in Music Hall history! Oh how those crowds are enjoying the love affair between rich but lonely Cass (Spencer Tracy) and the spirited lass (Lana Turner) from the other side of town. Their best friend (Zachary Scott) falls for her too in this thrilling Sinclair Lewis best-seller. M-G-M has made it into a movie for the millions!

"GREEN DOLPHIN" NEW CRITERION HIGH!

After setting a new all-time 4-week record, "Green Dolphin Street," M-G-M's big spectacular drama rolls merrily on at Criterion, N. Y. First openings terrific: Houston is second biggest in history; Atlanta, Kansas City, Buffalo sensational. And now a big national magazine campaign launches its nationwide release. What a list: Life (*2 issues*), Time, Look, Redbook, Collier's, Good Housekeeping, Ladies' Home Journal, Woman's Home Companion, McCall's Magazine, Sat. Eve. Post, Newsweek, Liberty, Esquire, New Yorker, True Confessions (*2 issues*), True Story, American Magazine, Today's Woman, Parent's Magazine, Household and all the fan magazines plus newspapers and radio. Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart and cast of thousands.

"GOOD NEWS" FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Will you be one of the several hundred lucky showmen who will play M-G-M's fast-stepping Technicolor Musical simultaneously with Radio City Music Hall at holidaytime? What a turn-over with this hour and a half joy film, packed with youthful verve, studded with top song hits, starring June Allyson, Peter Lawford and a screenful of sparkling new talents.

$11,650,000 EK Dividend on Wages

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 18.—A wage dividend of some $11,650,000 for about 50,000 employes in the Western hemisphere was voted today by Eastman Kodak's board of directors. The dividend, largest in the history of the EK plan, will be paid in March. Eligible employes will receive $22.50 for each $1,000 earned at Kodak during 1943 through 1947. Last year the dividend totaled $8,100,000 for 48,800 employes. Employes who have been with Kodak for five years by the end of 1947 will receive wage dividends of about 5¾ times their average weekly wages for the five years. Those with less service will get proportionate amounts. Minimum payment is $15.

Next March's 36th payment will bring the total wage dividend distribution to approximately $88,500,000.

The board today also declared a common stock dividend of 55 cents a share for the quarter and the regular one and one-half per cent preferred stock dividend of $1.50 a share. Both will be paid on Jan. 2 to stockholders of record on Dec. 5. Kodak split its common shares five-for-one last April, and, figured on the basis of the new share, common stock dividends this year will total $1.60 a share compared with dividends in 1946 equivalent to $1.40 a share.

Bookers Name Slates For Dec. 1 Election

Nomination of officers for the Motion Picture Bookers Club, for elections scheduled Dec. 1, follow: For president, Harry Margolis, Ted Krassner, Alex Arnswalder; vice-president, Irving Kaplan, Lee Kaye, Lil Seidman and Dan Donticelle; secretary, Tom Pozin and Doris Wishman; treasurer, Abe Levy, Etta Segall and Lou Salkoff.

Jean Slade and Max Fried were reelected by acclamation as financial secretary and sergeant-at-arms, respectively.

Unit Reelects Kent

William Kent has been reelected president of Artists Representatives Association, Inc., here. Other officers reelected are Nat Lefkowitz and Art Weems, vice-presidents; John F. Dugan, secretary, and Nat Kalcheim, treasurer. Named governors are: Dugan, Herman Fialkoff, Joe Flaum, Kent, Lefkowitz, Harry Moss, Leon Newman, Sidney J. Page, Al Rickard, Harry Romm, Weems and Charles V. Yates.

'Mourning Becomes Electra'

(*Continued from page 1*)

inevitability of the plot. But nevertheless, it runs on—and often interminably. In fidelity to its original, moreover, "Electra" is O'Neill captured on film, but the question is if the capture is worth the effort and the price where rank-and-file audiences are concerned.

The majority of rank-and-file showmen will find the answer in a capsule of the dramatic material: Katina Paxinou, mother of Rosalind Russell and Michael Redgrave, is carrying on an affair with Leo Genn, sea captain, while husband and father—Raymond Massey—is serving the Union as one of its generals. Genn likewise professes to love Miss Russell, whose suspicions, aroused by gossip, are confirmed when she follows her mother to New York and into Genn's arms.

Torn between shock of the discovery about her mother, but chiefly by the deception Genn has practiced on her, Miss Russell sets out on a vengeance trail which (1) precipitates Massey's death via poison supplied by Genn and administered by Miss Paxinou; (2) induces Redgrave to kill Genn, which, in turn, (3) propels Miss Paxinou into committing suicide; (4) hastens the decay of Redgrave's unstable mental apparatus until he shoots himself in fancied balm for a bedevilling conscience, and (5) finds the central figure in this human blood bath (meaning Miss Russell) committing herself to self-imprisonment in the ancestral home, there to suffer remorse for the remainder of her days.

Thus, there is the unfaithful wife and mother poisoning her own husband; the son killing the lover, the mother killing herself and, finally, the son killing himself. There is, too, a strange relationship between son and mother (Redgrave and Miss Paxinou) with its implications of incest, a recurrence of that same suggestion between brother and sister (Redgrave and Miss Russell) and, just possibly, a third time around between father and daughter (Massey and Miss Russell) on the latter's part at any rate.

O'Neill had this in his play. Dudley Nichols, the producer and the director, has it in his film. But it is difficult to find a reason why the public ought to have it on the screen unless, it may be argued, the fine detail will sail unknowingly over its head.

The performances which trace this series of unholy events are of high order, in the main, although they reveal qualitative shadings. Miss Paxinou, an actress of genuine dramatic stature, is consistently best. Miss Russell has innumerable scenes of sustained power and some which have not. Redgrave, in a difficult role, this reviewer found to be convincing only at times. Genn proves uniformly competent if not particularly romantic. Massey appears not to have gotten inside his brief part and "hams" his deathbed scene rather outrageously. As Seth, 60 years in the family service, Henry Hull does nicely without distinction. Kirk Douglas, who fails to marry Miss Russell, and Nancy Coleman, who never gets Redgrave, are pleasing in minor characterizations.

Having made its problem film in association with the Theatre Guild, RKO Radio is relying upon the original stage producers to launch it. Guild subscribers, no doubt, will be interested. Special groups of other stripe and ilk presumably will be as well. The average exhibitor will not be unless "Electra" can be hypoed into a vogue.

It will require lots of needles, and lots of needling.

Running time, 172 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

Savini to Publish

Astor Publishing Co. has been formed to publish the music used in Astor productions, by R. M. (Bob) Savini, president of Astor. Berle Adams is president and Savini will be vice-president. Adams is also president of Pix and Preview Music Corp.

Attack Horror Films

MERIDEN, CONN., Nov. 18.—A program of "horror" films scheduled to be shown at Loew's Poli Theatre here drew strong protests from parent and teachers groups which demanded banning of the show on the grounds that it was unfit for children.

New Theare Supply Firm in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 18. — Minneapolis Theatre Supply Co. has been organized by three veterans in the theatre supply and equipment field and this week opened offices and assembly and repair rooms here.

Organizers of the new firm are Charles Craemer, Bob Lahti and Bob Lundquist, the latter a nephew of the late Frank Elliott, whose Elliott Film and Theatre Equipment Co. is still in business.

2 Towns Pass Tax Law

PLAIN CITY, O., Nov. 18.—City Council has passed a three per cent admission tax, effective Dec. 1. Levy applies to admissions to dancehalls, athletic fields, amusement parks and carnivals, as well as to theatres.

JAMESTOWN, O., Nov. 18.—Village council has approved a three per cent admission tax. Religious, charitable and educational affairs are exempt.

FWC Files for Tax

BAKERSFIELD, Cal., Nov. 18. — Recently passed tax ordinance here has again come under fire with Fox West Coast Theatres filing suit in Superior Court for a refund of all back payments, amounting to $6,949, made under the new levy. The circuit has made all payments under protest.

Academy Awards Are Back to the Shrine

Hollywood, Nov. 18.—The Academy's board of governors reports a decision to hold the annual award ceremonies in March at the Shrine Auditorium, like last year, instead of in June in the Hollywood Bowl, as announced a month ago. Reason given was the impracticability of completing necessary arrangements for a switch in time to assure an all-around success. It is believed, however, that powerful voices raised in objection to the change in the award-eligibility period, which now returns to its former basis of the 1947 calendar year, had much to do with the new decision.

Baltimore Theatres Facing Another Tax

BALTIMORE, Nov. 18.—The Board of Estimate announces it will recommend to the City Council a new tax on admissions to amusements representing 5½ per cent over and above the one-half of one per cent currently levied as a state tax. Managers of first-run theatres already have called a conference to plan protests against the boost.

Pioneers To Admit 44

(*Continued from page 1*)

board of Paramount; Ted Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, and Jessel, for their services to the industry. The awards will be made by Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia and Pioneers' president.

Zukor, at the dinner, will outline a proposal that the Pioneers establish and maintain a permanent motion picture museum for the public.

The dinner arrangements committee is composed of Horne, Chairman, Abel Green, Hal Hode, Marvin Kirsch, Jack Levin and Gil Josephson.

New members include:

Leonard Anderson, Harold Auten, Constantine J. Basil, Herman Becker, Harry M. Bessey, Alexander A. Brown, Maurice L. Fleischman, Jacob B. Fox, Leo Thomas Jones, Henry Kaplowitz, Guy Kenimer, Harry A. Kridel, William F. Kruse, Leon Leonidoff, William Banks Levy, Nat Liebeskind, S. Maurice Livingston, Mitchell May, Jr., William Morris, Jr., Jack O'Connell, Carleton S. Perkins, A. J. Rademacher, Harry P. Reston, Israel Rosenfeld, Leon M. Rosenblatt, Frank D. Rubel, Alfred N. Sack, Abc Schneider, Sol A. Schwartz, Mark N. Silver, H. A. Spanuth, S. A. G. Swenson, John J. Turteltaub, Martin N. Wolf, Sol Solomon, Mortimer D. Sackett, Samuel Goldstcin, Andrew J. Sharick, Nat Sanders, Elmer O. Wilschke, Sir Alexander King, Mark Ostrer, Sam Katzman and Neil F. Agnew.

Sponsor Charity Game

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nov. 18.—The Variety Club of Charlotte, Tent No. 24 will sponsor a charity all-star football game on Dec. 13 at Legion Memorial Stadium, Cy Dillon, chief barker, announces.

DF

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Many Suits Hinge on US Trust Rule: Levy

U. S. Supreme Court's determination of the New York anti-trust case against the distributors will pave the way for the Chicago Federal Court to alter its decree governing operations in Chicago to conform with the high court's "conclusions and directions," according to an analysis prepared by Herman Levy, general counsel of Theatre Owners of America.

The Supreme Court's decision on fixing minimum admission prices, clearances, competitive bidding and other practices "may very well seriously affect the provisions of the Jackson Park (Chicago) case and the ultimate conclusion of several other cases awaiting trial or an appeal," Levy states. The Chicago court retained jurisdiction over the Jackson Park case "for the purpose of enforcing and modifying" its decree, he points out.

AAA and Appeal Unit Rule on R. I. Issues

Appeal board of the American Arbitration Association's motion picture tribunals has modified the ruling of the Boston tribunal in the case of the Harold Amusement Corp., operators of the Star, Pascoag, R. I., by ruling out the tribunal's "not later than 60 days after territorial release date" grant in Harold's clearance complaint against five major distributors, but sustaining that maximum clearance which may be granted to the Stadium, Bijou and Park theatres in Woonsocket, R. I., over the Star, shall be seven days.

Meanwhile, the Boston arbitrator has dismissed the clearance complaint of Elmwood Amusement Corp., operators of the Jamestown Theatre, Jamestown, against all five, holding that reduction of clearance is not justified. Complainant sought complete abolition of clearances.

Food Train

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Pennsylvania Railroad sections of the train, and bands of the City fire and sanitation departments.

In his address of acceptance and welcome of the Food Train, the Mayor said: "I am sure that the people of this nation join me in extending thanks to Harry Warner, to his colleagues Charles P. Skouras, West Coast chairman, and George Skouras, a member of the National Friendship Food Train Committee in New York, and their associates in the industry, who have handled the management of this train all the way across the nation."

United Nations delegate for the United States Warren R. Austin, Mrs. Tarchiano, wife of the Italian Ambassador, and the Consuls General of France and Italy in New York, also spoke.

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Canada May Bid for US Film Production

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—That Canada's administration may embark on a program to attract U. S. film production here was foreshadowed today by a government official. He suggested producers could also process and make reprints of films in Canadian laboratories and distribute overseas, thereby winning new export markets for Canada.

Projectors Banned

(*Continued from page* 1)

flashlights are also banned as imports.

A special excise tax of 25 per cent has been levied on many manufactured items made either in the U. S. or Canada, including certain types of projectors for slides or pictures designated for the use of either industrial or other professional photographers.

The controls were announced here last night by Canadian Finance Minister Douglas Abbott a few hours after announcement in Washington by the Export-Import Bank of a loan of $300,000,000 to the Dominion.

The new proposals will be developed in detail when the Canadian Parliament reassembles in December. They are interpreted here as meaning that many benefits anticipated in the new tariff agreements just announced between Canada and the U. S. may be nullified.

4-Day MGM Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sam Gardner, San Francisco; Rudy Berger, Washington, and John S. Allen, Dallas; John J. Maloney, Pittsburgh, and Frank C. Hensler, Detroit; Burtus Bishop, Jr., Chicago; Ralph W. Maw, Minneapolis; John P. Byrne, New York, and Herman Ripps, Albany.

From the home office there will be Edward M. Saunders and Edwin W. Aaron, assistant general sales managers; Henderson M. Richey, assistant to Rodgers and head of exhibitor and public relations; Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising-publicity; Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager; William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, and other executives.

400 Dismissed by M-G-M

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Upwards of 400 dismissals among lower-bracket personnel have been put into effect by M-G-M during the past two weeks as a result of the company's streamlining and economy drive, it has been learned here.

U-I Schedule

(*Continued from page* 1)

thur Rank's "Captain Boycott." March will usher in Rampart's "Letter from an Unknown Woman," together with Chester Erskine's screen version of the play, "All My Sons."

"Casbah," the Marston film, is scheduled for April and so are "Up in Central Park" and "Another Part of the Forest." Early in the summer, the company will release three Technicolor films, Walter Wanger's "Tap Roots," "Black Bart" and "River Lady."

Tax Divides Labor

(*Continued from page* 1)

thereby end the American film embargo.

On the other hand, George H. Elvins, secretary of the Association of Cine-Technicians, most influential member group of FIEC, and of which NATKE is also a part, is said to envisage continuation of the tax as an opportunity to implement his reputed plan for quasi-nationalizing the British industry.

NATKE leaders charge that some ACT leadership is largely motivated by Communist doctrine, and say they will ultimately turn the occasion of the tax and threat of nationalization into a battle for labor representation supremacy.

NATKE secretary T. J. O'Brien has pointed out that ultimate absence of American films here will mean that theatres will close and bring wide unemployment. He also holds that the "mirage" of an American market for British pictures has dissipated, and says both factors are conspiring to bring about a rising spiral of confusion.

WB - British Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

the English director and Bernstein, who is head of Granada Theatres in England, on behalf of their new production company, Transatlantic Pictures.

Hitchcock will direct both films. "Under Capricorn" will be produced next spring at the Warner studio in England. "Rope" will be made at Warner's Burbank studios.

'48 Building Rise Seen for Theatres

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Considerable increase in the volume of theatre and other amusement construction next year is predicted in a Government forecast of the 1948 construction picture released today. This was made, apparently, despite existing building controls.

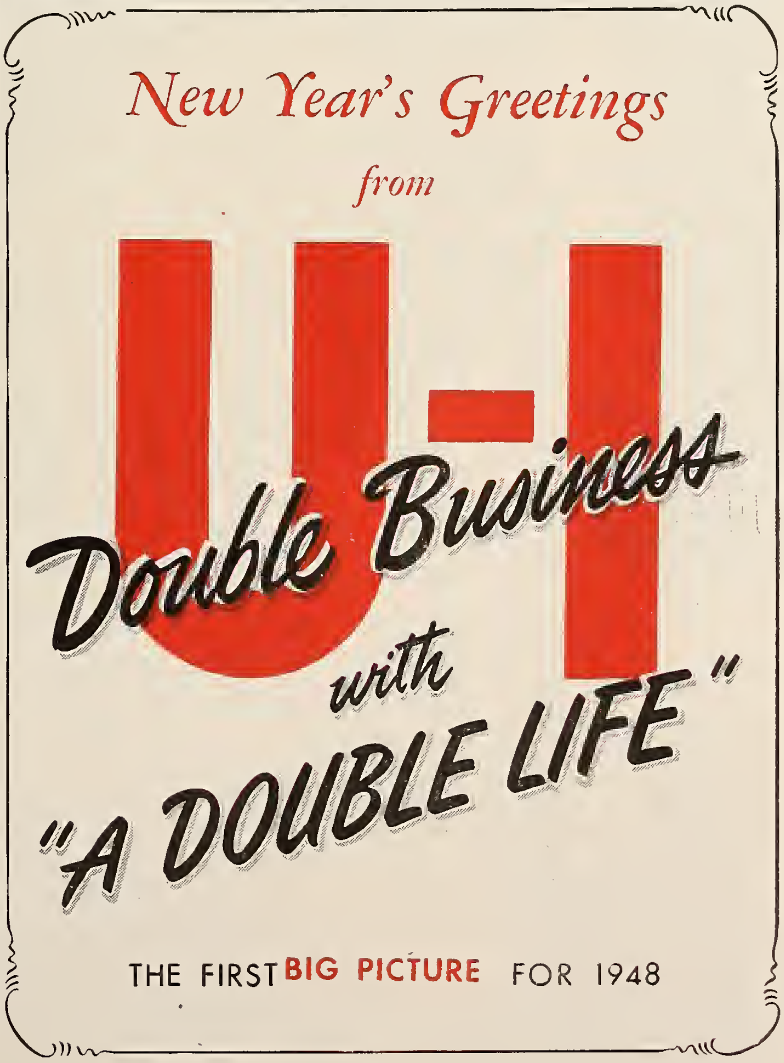
No breakdown on theatre construction is contained in the report, but Commerce Department officials said they expect an increase of about $50,000,000 in the entire amusement building field. Traditionally amusement construction accounts for about two per cent of all construction, which would make a total of about $252,000,000 this year and slightly over $300,000,000 next year, based on Government estimates.

Baird Returns to BIS

CHICAGO, Nov. 18.—Thomas Baird has joined the staff of the British Information Services to fill the new post of Midwest regional director. Prior to his appointment, Baird was a director of British Information Services in New York.

Charron with Odeon

TORONTO, Nov. 18.—John E. Charron, former manager of the International Cinema, here, has been appointed publicity director for Odeon Theatres in Montreal, and is slated to become manager of a new Odeon unit.



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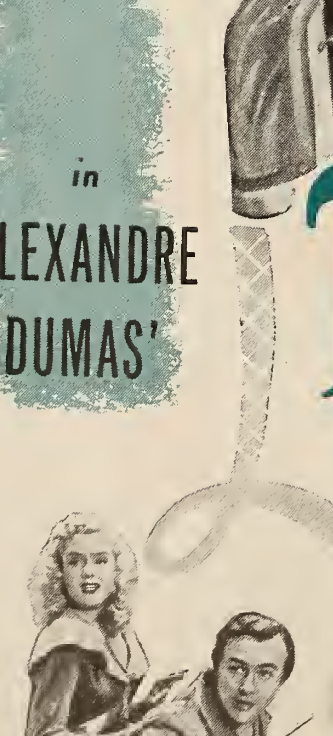

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All Executive Contracts at Univ. Expiring

Renewals May Wait on More Settled Conditions

Employment contracts of all top executives of Universal Pictures Co. will expire on Dec. 31.

Present indications are that new contracts will not be made in advance of the expiration date. In that case, the executives concerned would continue without contracts for an interim period, perhaps until the annual meeting of the company's board of directors, usually held in late March or early April, or failing that, until such time as future business conditions may be deemed to be more settled.

The Universal executives whose contracts will expire are: J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board; Nate J. Blumberg, president; Charles D. Prutzman, William A. Scully, Joseph H. Seidelman and John J. O'Connor, vice-presidents, and Matthew J. Fox,

(*Continued on page* 2)

Dividends in October Rise

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Cash dividends paid out by film companies during October totaled $4,461,000, a slight rise over the $4,212,000 paid in October of last year, the Department of Commerce reported here today.

For the three months ending in October industry firms paid out $13,716,000, compared with $15,254,000 paid in the similar period last year, but Commerce officials attribute this drop to the fact that the Warner-Stanley Co., which paid a large dividend in August of last year, paid none in August of 1947.

NY Exhibitors Set FJP Drive Plans

Plans for exhibitor participation in the amusement field campaign to raise $325,000 toward the 1947 goal for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York were set here yesterday at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor attended by representatives of exhibition in the Metropolitan area.

Si Fabian, president of Fabian The-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Celler's Battle in Congress Against Ascap in January

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Representative Celler's two-pronged offensive to get Congressional restrictions on the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will get under way sometime in January, the New York Democrat disclosed here today.

Celler says he plans to ask for a full-dress House Committee investigation of all phases of ASCAP operations, and an amendment to the anti-trust laws to remove any doubts that its statutes cover ASCAP and any similar music-licensing organizations. The House investigation, if voted, would probably be carried on by a sub-committee of the House Judiciary Committee.

He said he would not try to get action during the present special session, but rather in the next regular session.

Canada 'Emergency' May Stay 2 Years

OTTAWA, Nov. 19.—Canada's economic emergency, which has resulted in the banning of certain film equipment imports, is seen by some economic experts here as continuing for 18 to 24 months.

The ban, it is pointed out, will not produce any heavy hardships immediately, since supplies on hand are likely to last for a while, Canadian supply dealers, however, foresee difficulties should the ban continue for a long period, because they are dependent on U. S. supplies.

Film Stocks Active; 'U' Pfd. Up 1¾ Pts.

Film stocks were unusually active here yesterday. Universal common gained 1⅛ points on 3,000 sales, while its preferred rose 1¾ points, on 13,000 sales. Paramount, with 18,800 shares sold, was up ¾ of a point. Only Columbia showed a loss dropping ⅛ of a point on 5,100 shares sold.

Other stocks sold as follows: 20th Century-Fox, common and preferred up ½ of a point each, with 4,700 and 400 shares sold, respectively; RKO Radio up ½ on 11,700 sold, while the company's warrants on the Curb Exchange rose ⅛ on 9,400 sales. Loew's was up ⅛ of a point on 6,300 sales. Warner went up ¼ point on an 8,100-share turnover.

Court Trend Favors Divorcement: Myers

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 19.—Asserting that the theatreman's "Utopia" will be nearer when theatre divorcement, more major producers and "greater product" become a reality, Abram F. Myers, general counsel of National Allied, today told 200 Hoosier exhibitors and guests that there is "a definite trend" favoring divorcement and the independent theatreman in legal contests.

Myers, who spoke at the opening session of the Associated Theatre

(*Continued on page* 2)

Johnston Says Stand on Hiring Reds Is Needed

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, last night virtually called upon the industry to take a stand on employment of Communists within the ranks of the motion picture.

In an address at the annual dinner of the Picture Pioneers at the Hotel Plaza, Johnston said that while "Government must adopt a national policy with respect to the employment of Communists in private industry . . . labor and management must not shirk their responsibilities by waiting for Government to act."

In the course of his address last

(*Continued on page* 4)

Jan. 14 Deadline Set In Gov't-Ascap Case

Washington, Nov. 19.—Department of Justice has set Jan. 14 as the new deadline for Ascap to file an answer in the Department's anti-trust suit against Ascap's foreign affiliations. Nov. 10 was the original deadline date.

Justice officials pointed out that this is purely a formality, since negotiations are still going on to work out a consent decree in the case.

Employing of Reds in Films Up for Study

MPA Meeting May Set Industry - Wide Policy

Indications that an industry policy on employment or termination of the employment of known Communists within the industry will be explored at the meeting of home office and studio executives called by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, for next Monday in New York were evident yesterday.

MPA refused to elaborate on its statement of Tuesday that the meeting would weigh problems presented by alleged "subversive" activities of persons in the industry. However, in addressing the annual dinner of the Picture Pioneers at the Hotel Plaza last night, Johnston said that "labor and management must not shirk their responsibilities by waiting for Government to act" on adoption of a national policy with respect to the em-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Mayer, BOT In Tax Talks

LONDON, Nov. 19.—Possibility of establishing a world commerce corporation and the extent to which such an organization would figure in plans for settlement of the British *ad valorem* tax impasse, were subjects discussed here between Motion Picture Association foreign department manager Gerald Mayer and British Board of Trade undersecretary Rupert Somervell during the former's brief stopover in London en route to Scandinavia.

While here Mayer also examined possibilities revolving around the im-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Upstate Showmen to Meet on TOA Unit

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 19.—A meeting to discuss further the formation of an exhibitor organization here to affiliate with the Theatre Owners of America, will be held on Monday. Some 110 exhibitors of the area have been invited to attend, by Harry Lamont, president of Lamont Theatres, and Leonard Rosenthal, co-counsel

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, Enterprise president, left here yesterday for the Coast, while DAVID LOEW, board chairman, will return to the Coast from New York tomorrow.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will fly to New Orleans today from New York.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, Altec president, and MRS. CARRINGTON are in town from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists Eastern and Canadian sales manager, accompanied by his assistant, ABE DICKSTEIN, will be in Gloversville, N. Y., today.

•

RALPH COHN of Triangle Prod. will leave here Saturday for London.

•

HERBERT T. KALMUS, Technicolor president, is expected here today from Cape Cod.

•

HAROLD RODNER, Warner Service Corp. vice-president, has left here for Chicago and will be in Washington on Monday.

•

ROBERT PRESNELL, SR., and JOHN REINHARDT, heads of ARPI Prod., are due here shortly from the Coast.

•

SIDNEY FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, is in town from Hollywood.

To Set Paramount Releases for '48

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—Paramount home office and studio executives are in conference here to set a product release schedule for 1948 beyond January. At present the company has no general release dates beyond "I Walk Alone" on Jan. 14. Here from New York are Barney Balaban, Charles Reagan, Paul Raibourn, Fred Mohrhardt and Russell Holman.

Smith, Stage Mgr., Dies

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—George W. Smith, 48, formerly stage manager of Radio City Music Hall, New York, died here yesterday at Presbyterian Hospital of a heart attack. For 11 years he was an employee of George Abbott, New York producer, and also served Abbott as stage manager. He also appeared in the film, "Snafu."

Univ. Contracts

(*Continued from page* 1)

director and chairman of the subsidiary, United World Pictures.

The expiration of the contracts occurs on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the present management which has headed Universal since 1938. In 1941, and prior to their expiration, the original contracts of the seven were extended to Dec. 31, 1948. The expiring contracts include stock options.

News Briefs . . .

U. S. Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder has appointed Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, as vice-chairman of the U. S. Savings Bonds Committee for New York State, to be associated with state chairman Lewis E. Pierson.

During the war, Coyne was national field director of the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury.

Garbutt, Industry Pioneer, Dies at 78

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—Frank A. Garbutt, 78, who was among the original founders of Famous Players-Lasky, predecessor to Paramount, and in charge of production in the early days, died at his home here today. He was a sportsman, shipbuilder and was prominent in the oil and silver-mining industries.

Two married sisters survive. Funeral services will be held tomorrow.

Retroactivity Stalls '644' Cameramen's Pay Bid Here

Negotiating committee of cameramen's Local No. 644 yesterday agreed at a meeting here with company representatives to accept the counter-offer of $35-per-week wage increase for Eastern short subject cameramen, but refused to drop its demand that an increase be retroactive to last July 1. Companies want the effective date to be Jan. 1 next.

Harker AMPA Press Contact

Marjorie Harker, publicity representative for March of Time here, succeeds Louis Pelegrine as press relations manager for the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, it was announced yesterday by AMPA vice-president Phil Williams.

Luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, to be held at the Town Hall club here today, will be devoted to an examination of the film situation abroad, under the chairmanship of Dave Blum, Loew International publicity director. Principal speakers will be Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Commerce Department's motion picture consultant, and Theodore Smith of the Motion Picture Association.

Eyssell Dinner Host

Mary Pickford, Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn, partners in Triangle Productions, were dinner guests of Gus Eyssell, managing director of Radio City Music Hall, at the theatre Tuesday evening, following a screening of the company's "Sleep My Love." Also present were Mr. and Mrs. Gradwell Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cohn, Joseph Curtis, Sam Dembow, Jr., and Jack Daily.

Cancels 'Amber' Booking

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Responding to protests from ministers, priests, and parent-teacher groups, Publix-Great States has cancelled "Forever Amber" at the Tivoli, Aurora, Ill.

THE investigation by New York District Attorney Frank S. Hogan in connection with reported efforts of former Maj. Gen. Bennett E. Meyers to have an unexpurgated print of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," shown here discloses there was no basis for criminal action, Hogan said yesterday. Hogan had conferred with City Welfare Commissioner Benjamin Fielding (former City License Commissioner), who earlier had suspected an offer of $100,000 was suggested to arrange the deal.

Gehring to Preside at Chicago Sales Meet

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, will open a two-day sales meeting at the Hotel Sheraton here tomorrow, attended by branch managers of the Midwest area.

The agenda will include discussions of sales policies and plans announced last week at the division managers meeting in New York, and the product lineup for 1948, plans for extending the Cleveland clearance, and general sales policies for "Forever Amber," "Daisy Kenyon" and "Thunder in the Valley."

Court Trend

(*Continued from page* 1)

Owners of Indiana convention here, cited the Jackson Park (Chicago) decision in support of his view, and also told the convention that the only way to get justice against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is by an amendment to the copyright law.

Oher speakers at the session today, which was opened by ATOI president Trueman Rembusch, were Ma[illegible]e Wolf, M-G-M exhibitor rela[illegible]s head; Pete Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio; and John Wolfberg, head of Rocky Mountain Allied.

ATOI Protests Film Practices to Clark

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 19.—Protest against practices which have "increased the major distributors' monopolistic hold on the independent theatre owner, forcing him to accept contracts on high admission pictures and extended runs" has been voiced in a complaint sent to U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana.

ATOI asserted that producers and distributors have created "an artificial shortage of feature pictures."

Prints are removed from service two years after release, further shortening the market on repeats, it said.

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630 Ninth Ave., N. Y. C.

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Screen Play by Phoebe & Henry Ephron and I. A. L. Diamond • Music by Werner Heymann

Policy on Reds

(*Continued from page 1*)

ployment of Communists in private industry.

His statement, linked with the announced purpose of next Monday's meeting led to the widespread belief in the trade that a study and possible adoption of an industry-wide policy on the employment or retention of known Communists in the industry is highly likely at the meeting. Representatives of companies not members of the MPA have been invited to attend the Monday meeting.

RKO announced a policy of not employing known Communists last week. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Nov. 14, RKO made the announcement of its policy in a letter to a stockholder which disclosed that the policy had been adopted by the company's board of directors. The RKO board met in Los Angeles last week.

Reports that other companies have taken similar action could not be confirmed yesterday but it is believed likely that, if they have not already done so, a number of them will within the near future. It is felt that Monday's meeting will serve to air the subject thoroughly and that individual companies will form and adopt their own policies thereafter.

Loew Declares Dividend

Directors of Loew's, Inc., at a meeting held here yesterday, declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on the company's common stock, payable Dec. 31 to stockholders of record on Dec. 11.

Set FJP Plans

(*Continued from page 1*)

atres, amusement division chairman, presided at the luncheon. Others in attendance were Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Brandt, Max A. Cohen, Samuel Rosen, Samuel Rinzler, Solomon M. Strausberg and Edward N. Rugoff. Rinzler and Rugoff are co-chairmen of the drive's exhibitor committee.

In the afternoon the part to be played by the industry's talent in the fund-raising campaign was discussed at a conference with Fabian and Samuel Rauch, Marvin Schenck, Charles Miller, Nat Lefkowitz, Henry Jaffe and Jack J. Katz.

To Meet on TOA Unit

(*Continued from page 1*)

and adviser on buying for Upstate Theatres.

Lamont declared that he believes the TOA will be favorable to the small exhibitor. At Monday's meeting, when a temporary rules committee will present bylaws, each exhibitor will have one vote, regardless of the number of theatres he operates. It will also stress the necessity of fighting Ascap's new rates. The temporary rules committee consists of Lamont, Rosenthal, John Gardner, Sylan Leff and Neil Hellman.

'Bishop's Wife' Benefit

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife" will have its first public showing in the U. S. at the Astor Theatre here on Dec. 9, for the benefit of The Lighthouse, New York's institution for the blind.

New Year's Greetings
from U-I

Double Business with "A DOUBLE LIFE"

The
first
BIG PICTURE
for 1948

DeMille to Lead Off House Labor Probe

Washington, Nov. 19.—Hollywood producer Cecil B. DeMille will be the lead-off witness when the House Labor Committee opens hearings on Jan. 19 on possible legislation against interference by strikers with workers who want to stay on the job, committee chairman Fred Hartley announced here today.

DeMille will presumably give his experiences in the Hollywood labor dispute. Hartley said he did not know yet whether other Hollywood producers or executives would appear, but that leaders of both labor and industry will be invited.

Johnston

(*Continued from page 1*)

night, Johnston said that the 10 persons cited for contempt at the recent Washington hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities "have done a tremendous disservice" to the industry and to the cause of democracy.

He said the industry must take prompt, positive steps to meet the problem of Communistic influence but declared that "there is no subversive propaganda on the American screen and there isn't going to be."

The industry has been "on the spot" this year at home and abroad, Johnston said, citing the confiscatory British film tax, the barriers against American films in Iron Curtain countries and the investigation by the Un-American Activities Committee.

Citing the demand for Federal censorship of films by the Hearst newspapers, Johnston said he is prepared to "fight forever against Federal censorship," and pointed out that a Federal motion picture censor would be "among the most powerful men in America—a maker of kings and political parties."

Some 375 attended last night's dinner at which 44 new members were inducted. Scrolls of honor were awarded to Adolph Zukor, Paramount board chairman; Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America; Mary Pickford, and to George Jessel, who served as toastmaster. Jack Cohn, Columbia vice-president and president of the Pioneers, presented the awards.

Zukor told the gathering that the Pioneers' executive committee has agreed that a museum of the motion picture industry "for the preservation and exhibition of our memorabilia" has long been wanting. He said the Pioneers will endeavor to fill this want and establish such a museum.

May Wind Up 'First Phase' Of Red Probe on Coast

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—A subcommittee of the House Un-American Activities will attempt to wind up the first phase of the investigation of Communism in Hollywood at public hearings on the West Coast in January or early February, a committee source discloses.

The subcommittee will center on hearing those witnesses who were subpoenaed but not called to the stand during the recent hearings here.

Mayer, BOT Talks

(*Continued from page 1*)

passe settlement talks which have been held between Sir Wilfred Eady, representing the British government, and F. W. Allport, acting in behalf of the MPA. Resumption of the talks, it is understood, has been further delayed pending examination by various government departmental officials of the implications of the proposals in light of the changeover in the chancellorship of the exchequer from Hugh Dalton to Sir Stafford Cripps.

Meanwhile, the British Treasury has given assurance that there is no semblance of justification in reported expressions of pessimism in New York stemming from delays which have come up in the Eady-Allport talks.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 100 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1947 TEN CENTS

20th's 39-Wk. Profit Is $10,608,098

Same Period of 1946 Brought $16,219,815

Twentieth Century-Fox's consolidated net profit for the 39 weeks ended last Sept. 27 was $10,608,098, Spyros P. Skouras, president, disclosed here yesterday. This compares with $16,219,815 reported for the same period last year.

After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stocks, the profit for this year's period was equivalent to $3.65 per share on 2,768,950 shares of common. Profit for the comparable period of 1946, after deducting preferred dividends, amounted to $5.69 a share on 2,734,180 shares.

For the third quarter ended Sept. 27, profit after all charges was $2,206,320. After deducting dividends on

(*Continued on page* 3)

20th-Fox Votes to Oust Known 'Reds'

Twentieth Century-Fox's board of directors last night adopted a resolution to terminate the employment of "acknowledged Communists" and of any employee who is cited by a Congressional committee for refusing to answer a question about his political

(*Continued on page* 3)

U-I Will Get Rank Films of Wedding

J. Arthur Rank cameramen in London yesterday filmed in Technicolor events prior to, during and subsequent to the wedding of Britain's Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh which Rank intends to present as a three-reel subject, the U. S. Rank Organization disclosed here yesterday. Prints are expected to be received here on Nov. 26, and Universal-International plans to distribute the picture to U. S. theatres shortly thereafter.

The subject will include shots of the actual wedding ceremony in Westminster Abbey.

Johnston Speech Cited by Thomas

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston's recent speeches and his action in calling an industry meeting in New York next Monday on the Communist issue were hailed by the House Un-American Activities Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas as evidence that "the motion picture industry through Johnston is getting around to our viewpoint on this matter."

Declaring that he concurred with Johnston's view that the 10 cited for contempt have done a disservice to the industry and to democracy, Thomas said that "now that Johnston is beginning to see things our way, perhaps he will be more helpful in the future in cooperating with us in cleaning the Reds out of the motion picture industry."

Gibney Elected Head Of the Writers Guild

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—Sheridan Gibney, running on both "all-guild" and insurgent tickets, was elected president of the Screen Writers Guild, last night, succeeding Emmet Lavery, who withdrew.

The "all-guild" ticket also won all offices by an impressive majority over candidates supported by opposition forces known as "the Lester Cole faction." The meeting adopted a resolution applauding the testimony of Lavery at the Hollywood probe in Washington, and another resolution

(*Continued on page* 3)

Exchange Views on Policy Towards Reds

Preliminary approaches to an industry-wide policy on employment of known Communists were aired here yesterday at a lengthy meeting of company presidents, ranking executives and Eric A. Johnston, MPA president.

The huddles which will get under way Monday probably will flow over into Tuesday and perhaps Wednesday and were described authoritatively yesterday as "of extreme importance."

Exchange Barriers Temporary: Golden

Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Commerce Department's motion picture consultant, yesterday urged the American film industry to keep its product on the screens of the world, regardless of sacrifice or cost, because, he believes, "the present foreign-exchange barriers are only temporary."

Speaking at a luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Town Hall Club, here, Golden cautioned that foreign competitors "would like nothing better than to see a complete fade-out of American films from the screens of Europe," and elsewhere abroad, since that would give them a long-awaited opportunity to "spread their doctrines and to obliterate completely the idea of American democracy."

He questioned the wisdom of the

(*Continued on page* 3)

Canada Set to Control Imports; Film Quota Seen

TORONTO, Nov. 20.—With the establishment today of the Emergency Import Control Division by the Dominion government, Canada appears to be committed to a quota system on imports of films from the United States. Coupled with the announcement is the information that authority has been vested with Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe of the Canadian cabinet to deal with import permits for 35mm. films, both positives and negatives.

One alternative has been suggested in official quarters, this being the request that the Hollywood studios arrange for the early production of a share of films in Canada. Failing this, American companies may find themselves facing a drastic limitation on the product that can be shipped to their Canadian branch distributors.

Appointed as director of the Emergency Import Control Division to administer the new quota on imports is K. W. Taylor of Ottawa, who is also chairman of what remains of the wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Report US Producers' Offer

TORONTO, Nov. 20.—It was reported here tonight that American film producers have made overtures to Reconstruction Minister Howe in the Dominion government, offering to invest a 25 per cent ratio of profits from Canadian distribution of films in government bonds, thus leaving a share of revenue in the country.

Ascap Wants Thousands for Per-piece Fees

$10 'Service Charge' for Licenses; Music Extra

A service charge of $10 would be made on every per-piece music license issue, and a separate license would be required for every Ascap composition in every film exhibited, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers disclosed here yesterday.

In addition to the service charge, license fees of 50 cents to $1 daily would be charged for each piece of Ascap music in a motion picture, according to theatre seating capacity.

On the basis of those charges it is estimated that a 1,500-seat theatre,

(*Continued on page* 3)

Price Boosts Not by Exhibitors: ATOI

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 20. — While adopting no resolutions at its convention here, Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana today instructed its executive secretary, William A. Carroll, to draft a statement informing the public that advanced admissions are not the policy of theatre owners.

The convention, which today heard Jack Kirsch, National Allied presi-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Company Presidents As MPF Trustees

Presidents of 10 distributing companies are expected to serve as Motion Picture Foundation trustees-at-large, it was indicated here yesterday. Involved are the "Big Eight" and Republic and Monogram.

Letters which Barney Balaban, acting chairman of the MPF coordinating committee, sent originally calling for designations of trustees-at-large were sent directly to company presidents and were in the nature of invitations to them to serve personally, it was said.

Personal Mention

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production chief, will arrive here Sunday from Hollywood.

•

M. L. SIMONS, assistant to M-G-M exhibitor relations chief H. M. RICHEY, has left here for Dallas where he will attend the Allied Theatre Owners of Texas convention Nov. 24-25.

•

LEONARD H. GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president, and EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. vice-president, left here yesterday for a field trip to the Midwest and West.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, left here last night for Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

JOCK LAWRENCE, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, will return to New York from London Monday on the *SS Mauretania*.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox assistant general sales manager, is expected back here Monday from Chicago.

•

BARRY BUCHANAN, public relations chief for Triangle Prod., will fly to Boston Monday with BUDDY ROGERS, partner in Triangle.

•

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will leave here Sunday for Pittsburgh.

•

WILLIAM GOETZ will fly from Hollywood to New York tomorrow.

Tri-States Board Backs TOA Merger

MEMPHIS, Nov. 20.—Officers and directors of the Tri-State Motion Picture Theatre Owners, at a meeting here today, voted support of action taken by the Theatre Owners of America board in Chicago on Nov. 7-8 and agreed to name a committee to secure new members for TOA. Tri-State's convention action in joining TOA last month was also ratified.

The officers and directors also voted to hold six meetings a year and to protect pre-showing of features at Army and Navy posts where civilians are admitted.

Fifth & Walnut Case To Trial on March 2

Trust suit against distributors by the Fifth and Walnut Corp. of Louisville, in which the plaintiff asks $2,100,000 damages, will go to trial in New York Federal Court on March 2, according to Rogge, Fabricant, Gordon and Goldman, attorneys recently retained by the plaintiff.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

APPEARING before the Un-American Activities Committee in Washington on Oct. 27, Eric Johnston revealed a proposal to producers that they formulate an agreement not to employ proven Communists in jobs where they would be in a position to influence film content. A proven Communist was to be one established by conclusive evidence offered by the Thomas committee, according to Johnston's testimony.

The producers, fearful of charges of potential conspiracy, rejected the proposal made to them in Hollywood. They took the position that a Communist had to be defined, that charges of Communist ideology and practice must be proven—they did not know by what methods, however—and that it must be established a Communist, after proof, was dedicated to the overthrow of the Government by force or unconstitutional means. These determinations, they maintained, further, rest with Congress and not private industry.

■

After conferring at the Town House, Los Angeles, Floyd Odlum and N. Peter Rathvon, board chairman and president, respectively, of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. — production is its business—on Nov. 13 rejected the rejection met by Johnston. It was announced that RKO Radio's board of directors "without exception are unalterably opposed to Communism" and "have adopted a company policy not to engage the services of any known Communist."

This step developed out of attacks on Dore Schary, that company's executive producer, in print and by word-of-mouth following the Washington hearings. Pivot of the onslaught was Schary's statement that his personal policy would be to hire, or to re-hire, individuals on their merit and regardless of *accusation* of Communist adherence until convincing *proof* were produced; that, thereafter, he would not. He added that company policy, however, would have to be determined by Messrs. Odlum, Rathvon and himself. This is now resolved.

■

The situation presently is that two member companies of the Motion Picture Association have taken stands, 20th Century-Fox having acted yesterday. Officially, or at least publicly, no others have.

What confronts the whole industry, therefore, is the circumstance of two major companies apparently deciding on their own while the others are in the uncomfortable spot of having decided nothing. This is obviously untenable, and sheds light on the suddenness with which it was announced that the issue will be ventilated, and undoubtedly determined, beginning Monday, when major interests confer with Johnston.

■

It is quite clearly indicated that the position taken by the producers in turning down Johnston's original recommendation will be reversed in the wake of RKO's and 20th-Fox's reversal. This becomes apparent in view of a second factor. In his speech before the Picture Pioneers on Wednesday night, Johnston's viewpoint was unmistakable:

"In the final analysis, Government must adopt a national policy with respect to the employment of Communists in private industry. But labor and management must not shirk their responsibilities by waiting for Government to act."

■

In this process, however, there exist danger and pitfall. Commenting on the current concern over Communists, in its noteworthy report the President's Committee on Civil Rights on October 29 observed: "A state of near hysteria now threatens to inhibit the freedom of genuine democrats." In their statement Odlum and Rathvon warned: "Calling a man a Communist does not make him one." In his address, Johnston warned: "There's a danger of being swept away by hysteria; a danger that . . . every American who stands for progress is damned as a Red."

■

Reason is essential to this issue. Fair play, as well. Nothing has changed the fundamental which long since has recognized that a man continues to be innocent until proven guilty.

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20th CENTURY-FOX

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Color by Technicolor
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A Paramount Picture
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CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA! RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
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at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE 45th St. W. of B'way

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
FOREVER AMBER
TECHNICOLOR
20th CENTURY-FOX
starring LINDA DARNELL · CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE · GEORGE SANDERS
ON STAGE! Veloz and Yolanda
Extra Added Attraction Sid Caesar
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20th-Fox Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

preferred and convertible preferred, this amounted to 74 cents per share of common stock. Profit for the second quarter of 1947 was $2,504,175. Profit for the third quarter of 1946 on a comparable basis was $4,770,366, equal to $1.67 per share of common.

Gross income from sales, rentals and theatre receipts for the 39 weeks of 1947 was $136,157,953, compared to $139,180,445 for the same period last year. Consolidated net profit before federal taxes and minority interests was $20,283,644 compared to $31,148,768 for the respective periods. Taxes for this year amounted to $8,100,000, and for last year, $12,750,000.

The 20th-Fox board yesterday declared a quarterly cash dividend of 75 cents a share on common stock, and of 37½ cents a share on convertible preferred, both payable on Dec. 23, to stockholders of record on Dec. 2, 1947.

A quarterly cash dividend of $1.12½ a share on preferred stock was also declared, payable Dec. 15, to stockholders of record on Dec. 2.

20th - Fox on 'Reds'

(*Continued from page* 1)

affiliations, Spyros P. Skouras, president, announced.

Text of the 20th-Fox resolution follows:

> **"Resolved that officers of this corporation be, and they hereby are directed, to the extent that the same is lawful, to dispense with the services of any employee who is an acknowledged Communist, or of any employee who refuses to answer a question with respect thereto by any committee of the Congress of the United States, and is cited for contempt by reason thereof."**

Going well beyond action taken by RKO Radio last week in which that company merely declared it would not employ known Communists but mentioned nothing of terminating the services of Communists now in its employ, the 20th-Fox resolution came four days before a scheduled meeting here of Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, with 10 MPA member and non-member companies on the same question. With two companies now committed to a policy on Communist employes, others are expected to take similar action following Monday's conference.

Cut Sorrell Trial Bond

Los Angeles, Nov. 20.—Superior Court has reduced from $5,000 to $1,000 the bonds of Conference of Studio Unions president Herbert K. Sorrell and eight others. They have been on bond for a year pending trial Dec. 15 on charges of conspiracy in connection with violence in the Coast jurisdictional dispute.

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News Briefs . . .

TECHNICAL aspects of quota, tax and other restrictions against U. S. films abroad were discussed by Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and a number of company presidents and foreign department heads, at a meeting here yesterday. It was said that no conclusions were reached on the legal considerations of the adverse trade measures and means to counter them.

Purchasing Heads Set for Federation Campaign

Organization of the purchasing heads of film companies and circuits here into a committee to aid in raising $325,000 for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, was announced here yesterday by Si Fabian, chairman of the amusement division.

The purchasing agents' committee includes Ida Garretson, Peter Lewis, Ethel Black, Milton Green, J. P. Friedhoff, Lou Goudreau, William Friedman, Harry Nadel, Max Wolff, Max Seligman, Herman Maier, Jules Catsiff, Leonard Satz, Nat Lapkin and Emanuel Frisch. Others are Charles L. O'Reilly and Benjamin Sherman.

E-L Host to Children at 'Red Stallion' Premiere

Eagle-Lion has arranged a unique premiere for its "Red Stallion," at the Gotham Theatre here Nov. 26, with admission restricted to children and only those adults invited by the youngsters. The child guests will arrive at the theatre following a milk-ice-cream-and-cake "cocktail party" at Cafe Society Uptown. They will be taken to the theatre in a fleet of pint-size Crosley cars.

Republic Declares Dividend

A regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share on preferred stock, payable Jan. 2, to stockholders of record on Dec. 10, was set by Republic's board here yesterday.

VICTOR PEERS, former Gaumont-British production manager in London, is due here today by plane from England and will fly immediately to Hollywood where he will take a similar post with the new Transatlantic Pictures Corp., formed by Alfred Hitchcock and Sidney Bernstein. First two productions, "The Rope" and "Under Capricorn," will be released by Warners.

Sam Morris Sues for Alleged Breach of Life Contract

Sam E. Morris, former executive of Warner Brothers, yesterday filed a $250,000 breach-of-contract suit against the company in U. S. District Court, here, charging violation of salary agreement.

Morris described the agreement as calling for a life-time payment to him of $300 a week by the company along with his acting as an adviser. He said the agreement was made in 1945 when he left New York to live in California, and charges that last Nov. 1 the company discharged him.

Warner officials were unavailable last night for comment.

200 Attend Jersey Allied's Annual Beefsteak Dinner

Passaic, N. J., Nov. 20.—Some 200 from the industry, including film company sales managers, attended the annual beefsteak dinner given by Allied of New Jersey at the Ritz Restaurant, here, this evening. Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman presided.

Paralysis Foundation Will Discuss 'Dimes' Drive

Warren D. Coss of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will be host at a Hotel Astor luncheon here today to the motion picture trade press, and other press representatives, for a discussion of plans for the 1948 March of Dimes campaign, to be conducted nationally next month.

Ascap Wants

(*Continued from page* 1)

using double features with two changes weekly, would be required to pay Ascap approximately $3,000 per year. With a 40-cent admission, exclusive of tax, such a theatre would pay Ascap about $600 a year under its recently proposed 300 per cent increase in license fees. It now pays $225 annually.

Ascap revealed the per-piece terms to about 12 exhibitors who had requested price data on such licenses but who actually expressed no willingness to enter into contracts on that basis. Actually, Ascap is opposed to such a method of doing business because it involves an overhead increase of about 25 per cent. It attributed the $10 charge to the cost of "servicing, inspection and checking."

Ascap officials yesterday and in the past have expressed themselves as being wholly aware that the inquiries, understood to be inspired by Allied States, are motivated by the desire to prove the "per piece" arrangement unworkable in efforts to induce the Department of Justice to bring anti-trust proceedings against the society. The Department recently turned down such a bid, made by Allied, stating that the "per piece" method had not been tried although it is available to exhibitors under the consent decree governing Ascap's operations.

Assuming that the same theatre operates on a double-feature, two-changes-weekly policy it would pay $2,080 in service charges alone in "per piece deals" exclusive of the performance fees which could bring the total to over $3,000, that is, if each film played has only one Ascap work. It would, of course, go a good deal beyond this figure when musicals, some of them containing 10 songs, are exhibited.

The license fee for each day's use of a specific composition is 50 cents for theatres up to 800; 75 cents for houses seating between 800 to 1,599, and one dollar for theatres seating 1,600 and over.

Ascap's Greenberg Due Back Next Week

Herman Greenberg, licensing chief for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, is due back in New York from a field trip late next week at which time he is expected to resume negotiations of new music performance rates with the Theatre Owners of America.

Exchange Barriers

(*Continued from page* 1)

U. S. industry's withdrawal from the Danish market, the "duress" conditions laid down by Denmark notwithstanding, since foreign competitors now have an opportunity to replace U. S. films there.

The meeting was addressed also by Theodore Smith, executive assistant to Motion Picture Association vice-president Francis Harmon, who reviewed the MPA's battles against restrictions abroad and cited evidence of the overwhelming popularity of U. S. pictures with most Europeans.

Dave Blum, Loew's International publicity director, was meeting chairman.

SWG Elects Gibney

(*Continued from page* 1)

stated appreciation for his services during his three terms as president. A third resolution pledged the SWG to combat any attempt to blacklist writers for political or social views not contrary to law.

Balloting for 15 posts on the board of directors elected 14 of the "all-guild" slate and one, Albert Hackett, nominated by petition.

The question of whether SWG officers should be required to sign non-Communist affidavits, together with other matters presented in resolution form were put over until next week.

ATOI Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent, declare that 1948 will be "a year of decision" for the film industry, also reelected its incumbent officers, including Trueman Rembusch as president.

Leo Yassenoff of F. and Y. Construction Co. advised the Hoosier exhibitors to "delay or forget" their building problems as long as they can because, he said, costs are too high. Edward Raub, Jr., ATOI counsel, asserted that poorer relations between buyer and seller exist today than a year ago in the industry.

Film rentals, roadshows, 16mm. opposition and non-theatrical competition received major attention today at open forum discussions led by Pete Wood, secretary of Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio; John Wolfberg, Rocky Mountain Allied president, and Kirsch.

Registrations Heavy For Gulf Allied Meet

New Orleans, Nov. 20.—A large number of exhibitors registered here today preliminary to the opening tomorrow of full business sessions of the first annual convention of the Gulf State Allied Theatre Owners Association, in the Jung Hotel.

Abram F. Myers, general counsel of Allied States, will be the principal speaker. H. A. Cole of Texas Allied addressed today's meeting.

28 Jap Films Due In U.S. in Early '48

Washington, Nov. 20.—First Japanese-made pictures to be distributed in this country since the war will be exhibited here early next year, according to the War Department.

Shochiku Productions will supply 28 films to K. K. Hirose within the next six months, the films to be shown in Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, New York and Hawaii.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER O—55 min. (961) BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton C—69 min. (911)		(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/29/47)			(Block 1) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)		(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)		THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Oct. 19	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D—66 min. (Rev. 9/26/47) GUN LAW Al "Lash" La Rue O	SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O		ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648) (Rev. 11/10/47)		(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)		(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (625) (Rev. 9/10/47)	
Oct. 26	DOWN TO EARTH (Color) Rita Hayworth Larry Parks D—101 min. (930) (Rev. 8/29/47)	BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O		LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/28/47)		THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)		MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)	WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Nov. 2	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (981) (Rev. 10/7/47)	LINDA BE GOOD Elyse Knox Marie Wilson C—66 min. (Rev. 11/29/47)	(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D—111 min. (Rev. 10/9/47)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft George Brent D—90 min. (Rev. 10/29/47)		(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	RETURN OF RIN TIN TIN D—67 min. (Rev. 11/12/47) T—MEN Dennis O'Keefe D	DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (807) (Rev. 9/26/47)	(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47)		THE FABULOUS TEXAN William Elliott O—95 min. (624) (Rev. 10/7/47)	RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	FOREVER AMBER (Color) Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D—138 min. (733) (Rev. 10/9/47)			THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D—83 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D—89 min. (Rev. 11/18/47)		BOWERY BUCKAROOS C—65 min. (625) (Rev. 10/20/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)	UNDER COLORADO SKIES (Color) Monte Hale O—65 min. (652)	CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)			(Nov. Releases) THE EXILE Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maria Montez D—95 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D—103 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47) SHADOW VALLEY Eddie Dean O—58 min.	(Nov. Release) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	THE RED HORNET D		THE FLAME John Carroll Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)		THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	(Nov. Releases) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)		
Nov. 30		MAN FROM TEXAS James Craig O		THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D	BIG TOWN AFTER DARK Philip Reed Hilary Brooke D	SLIPPY McGEE Donald Barry Dale Evans	(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D—102 min. (806) (Rev. 11/12/47) DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (809) (Rev. 9/29/47)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)	THE UPTURNED GLASS James Mason D—87 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)	
Dec. 7	IT HAD TO BE YOU Ginger Rogers Cornel Wilde C—98 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)		(Dec. Releases) KILLER McCOY Mickey Rooney Brian Donlevy D—105 min. (Rev. 10/27/47)	THE OLD GRAY MAYOR June Priesser D		THE GAY RANCHERO (Color) Roy Rogers O	SO WELL REMEMBERED John Mills Martha Scott D—114 min. (807) (Rev. 11/29/47)				(Reissue) ANTHONY ADVERSE Fredric March Olivia de Havilland D—138 min. (Rev. 5/11/36)
Dec. 14	DEVIL SHIP Richard Lane D BLONDIE'S ANNIVERSARY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C		GOOD NEWS (Color) June Allyson Peter Lawford D	GUN TALK Johnny Mack Brown O			WILD HORSE MESA Tim Holt O—61 min. (808) (Rev. 11/17/47)	(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)	INTRIGUE George Raft June Havoc D		(Reissue) JEZEBEL Bette Davis D—103 min. (Rev. 3/9/38)
Dec. 21	ROSE OF SANTA ROSA Patricia White O				ROAD TO RIO Bing Crosby Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—100 min. (Rev. 11/11/47)		OUT OF THE PAST Robert Mitchum D-97 min. (Rev. 11/17/47)			(Dec. Release) PIRATES OF MONTEREY (Color) Maria Montez Rod Cameron D—77½ min. (Rev. 11/14/47)	MY WILD IRISH ROSE (Color) Dennis Morgan D

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical (C) Comedy (O) Outdoor Action

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Canada to Ask Favored UK Tax Treatment

Canada Studio Pool to Solicit US Producers

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—An emergency meeting of the Film Producers Assocation of Canada is being called here to discuss the effects of the austerity measures in the Government's cash conservation program.

The meeting, scheduled to be held as soon as Western associates can reach here will ask the Canadian cabinet to make representations to the British government for a more favored treatment of any pictures produced in the Dominion under the British ad valorem film tax against dollar countries.

The nine producing companies in Canada are also expected to pool facilities and resources to encourage picture-making in this country by Hollywood studios.

Reconstruction Minister C. D. Howe

(*Continued on page* 4)

Argentinian Ban Near End

Argentina's import ban against U.S. and other foreign films will be lifted "in a few weeks," according to Chas de Cruz, secretary of the Argentine Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, who was interviewed on Friday in the Motion Picture Association offices here, with MPA international officials present. De Cruz has been visiting Hollywood.

De Cruz pointed out that the supply of U. S. product in the Argentine will be exhausted by the end of the

(*Continued on page* 4)

J. L. & S. Questions Jackson Pk. Decree

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—Jones, Linick and Schaeffer will seek clarification from Federal Judge Michael L. Igoe on Wednesday regarding the double feature policy of its McVickers Theatre in which Balaban and Katz own 50 per cent of the stock.

According to Aaron Jones, B. & K.

(*Continued on page* 2)

Aim for Ascap Deal in Dec.

Theatre Owners of America intends to press for settlement of music performance rate increase issues with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers in one more meeting, in December, at which, it is hoped by the TOA, agreement on terms will be made and these thereupon presented to the directorates of both groups. TOA and Ascap officials have held numerous "preliminary" discussions for more than a month.

TOA representatives at the session will include Ted R. Gamble, Leonard Goldenson, Robert W. Coyne, Si Fabian, Herman Levy and members of the organization's special Ascap committee, including Elmer Rhoden and Roy Cooper (co-chairmen); Max Cohen, Ed Fabian, Dan Michalove, C. E. Cook, Sol Hyman, Maury Miller, Paul Williams and Robert Livingston.

Herman Greenberg, Ascap licensing chief, and others in top Ascap positions, will represent the society.

Paramount Buys Rainbow Prod.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—Paramount has acquired Rainbow Productions in a deal with Leo McCarey, producer-writer-director and Rainbow president, Barney Balaban, Paramount head, announced here at the weekend.

In addition to acquisition of the services of McCarey, who now returns to the Paramount banner, and Norman Z. McCloud, director, the transaction brings to Paramount Rainbow's assets, including interests in "Going My Way," "The Bells of St. Mary's" and the recently finished "Good Sam," starring Gary Cooper and Ann Sheridan. McCloud, under the deal, is under an exclusive contract to Paramount.

UA Board Approves Deals to Release 30

United Artists' board of directors at a meeting here on Friday approved a five-year extension of a contract with Sam Bischoff during which the producer is to deliver 25 films for UA distribution. Also approved was a five-picture distribution deal with Colony Pictures, headed by Fanchon Simon and Richard Sale.

Corporate matters were discussed at the meeting, which was adjourned to today. Meanwhile, George Bagnall, the company's production chief, was scheduled to return to the Coast at the weekend.

Building Controls to Hearings This Week

Washington, Nov. 23.—Extension of existing curbs on theatre building and other amusement construction is expected to be among proposals before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee when it opens hearings here this week on several phases of President Truman's economic program.

A bill to extend rent controls will be among the proposals before the committee.

Wedding Newsreels Released Tomorrow

Tomorrow the five newsreels will release scenes of the wedding of Britain's Princess Elizabeth to the Duke of Edinburgh. Footage was secured by the companies under a pooling arrangement established with British reels.

None of the U. S. reels will sell the footage as a "special," it is understood, but will release it as a pre-release in connection with next Thursday's regular reels.

Loew's and other key circuits in the U. S. have already booked the J. Arthur Rank Technicolor three-reel wedding subject, according to William Heineman, general sales manager of the U. S. Rank division of Universal-International, which will release the subject, which is now being processed in Technicolor in London. Some 100 prints will be flown to the U. S., and first screenings will be held at Loew's Capitol and Criterion, on or about Dec. 3, according to Heineman.

UK Welcomes Studio Construction by U.S.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—American investments here in studio building are highly favored by the British government because of the large-scale production which would result, according to official sources.

This is said to attach new importance to the conversations which British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson has initiated with the industry generally. Wilson has already talked with the British Film Producers Association which continues to maintain that solution of present difficulties lies in increasing the UK film quota. However, BOT has informed the producers that it regards utilization by the producers of present resources to the utmost as one means of stimulating production without increasing the quota.

Policy on Film 'Reds' Up for Debate Today

25 N.Y. Studio Heads to Convene with Johnston

About 25 top executives from New York and Hollywood will convene at Motion Picture Association offices here today to discuss the issue of potential subversive influences of persons associated with the industry. Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, is expected to call upon each company to expel every known Communist in its employ. The meeting is understood to be without precedent in the nature of its agenda and from standpoint of attendance.

Slated to participate in the conferences, which are likely to go beyond one day, are:

Barney Balaban, Austin Keough, Henry Ginsberg and Y. Frank Freeman, of Paramount; Albert and Harry Warner, Robert Perkins, War-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Seek 'Dimes' Collections

March of Dimes campaign of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will shortly be directed toward securing commitments from circuits and exhibitor organizations for the holding of audience collections and showing of a trailer during the week of Jan. 24-30, it was disclosed here at the weekend by Warren Cross, Foundation organization director.

Cross said the one-week theatre collection drive is expected to yield considerably more than the $1,500,000 collected in that manner last January.

The new March of Dimes trailer is entitled "Time Out for Margaret," and features an appeal by Margaret O'Brien. It was produced for the drive by M-G-M.

Skouras to Set TOA Fiscal Operations

Charles P. Skouras, as treasurer of the Theatre Owners of America; Robert W. Coyne, executive director, and Henry Ferber, comptroller, will complete detail work in TOA's fiscal operations at a meeting in Los Angeles early next month. Ferber left here for

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president; Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president; Paul Raibourn and Fred Mohrhardt returned to New York over the weekend from studio conferences.

•

Jock Lawrence, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, and Kay Harrison, managing director of Technicolor, Ltd., are among passengers who will arrive here today from London on the *SS Mauretania.*

•

Otto Luther of the Warner home office art department and Edna Simpson of Bedford, Ohio, will be married here Wednesday.

•

Sam Gardner, assistant to M-G-M Western sales manager George A. Hickey, will return to the home office today from Philadelphia.

•

E. T. Gomersall, assistant to W. A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, returned to New York at the weekend from Chicago and Atlanta.

•

A. J. O'Keefe, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, returned to New York over the weekend from New Orleans.

•

C. J. Zern, Altec Service district manager in Dallas, and Mrs. Zern are parents of a son.

•

Douglas Netter, Jr., Eagle-Lion sales promotion chief, has joined Altec as a sales representative.

'306' Deadlock Is Broken by Walsh

IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh is about to succeed in bringing about a settlement of the wage dispute between the affiliated circuits and projectionists Local No. 306, it is understood. This became evident at the weekend when the circuits were said to have increased their counter-offer to a straight 10 per cent raise; the local is reported to have demanded 15 per cent.

The circuits had demanded a straight 20 cents-an-hour increase over present scales and the new 10 per cent offer is said to represent a substantial improvement. The 306 negotiating committee is studying the new offer.

Circuit representatives will meet again with Walsh and the local's negotiating committee in the near future, it was said. At that time other ramifications of the negotiations are expected to be discussed.

Rites for A. Shapiro

Los Angeles, Nov. 23.—Services were held here Friday for Abraham Shapiro, 82, who died Thursday at the Jewish Home for the Aged. He was the father of Victor M. Shapiro, retired Coast publicist, and Harry Shapiro of New York.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALTHOUGH representatives of independent producers have repeatedly minimized to industry reporters the conflict between their views and those of major companies on a settlement formula for Britain's 75 per cent film tax, the gulf that divides them has been and is still wide.

It is generally known that the independents visited the Treasury Department, Reconstruction Finance Corp. and other government financial agencies. The purpose, it is assumed within the trade, was to petition such agencies to purchase all revenues of independent producers which might be frozen in Britain under the various tax settlement proposals advanced by the industry.

Those missions were unsuccessful.

It is not so well known that the independents in their desire to realize 100 per cent of their revenue from Britain threatened anti-trust action against the organized industry in the event that settlement proposals which might be interpreted as unfavorable to independents were negotiated with British authorities.

That is why, some weeks ago, the organized industry invited representatives of the Department of Justice and other Government officials to attend a meeting at which the whole problem of negotiations and settlement was aired. Since then, nothing has been heard of anti-trust action against industry negotiators.

Admittedly, any freezing of independents' revenues abroad will be a most serious matter to them. But it may be asked whether that fact is sufficient in itself to be permitted to hamper or bar an industry settlement with Britain.

Is it the fault of the major companies that Britain is short of dollars?

• •

In a different vein, it is being contended in some exhibitor quarters that Theatre Owners of America is laying itself open to anti-trust charges in endeavoring to obtain more equitable music license fees from the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers than those announced by the Society to become effective next February 1.

Attorneys familiar with anti-trust litigation hold that contention to be far-fetched.

TOA is not an ASCAP licensee. It will not and cannot make a deal with ASCAP. It can endeavor, as can any negotiator, to persuade ASCAP to offer to theatre licensees lower rates, more equitable terms, than those which the Society has announced. Negotiation is not collusion. The present ASCAP rates were determined in exactly that manner.

If an equitable licensing arrangement could be obtained, TOA could do no more than recommend it to exhibitors. The anti-trust laws do not prohibit that. There is no obligation upon any exhibitor, even a TOA member, to accept such a recommendation.

However, if any large number of exhibitors do accept such a recommendation, ASCAP will be required by the Federal consent decree under which it operates, and not by TOA, to offer the same terms to all other theatre licensees. The ASCAP consent decree prohibits the Society from discriminating in the matter of license fees among members of the same licensing group.

Apart from negotiation, there is no other reasonably certain relief which can be invoked by exhibitors before February 1 to forestall the drastic increases proposed by ASCAP.

The alternative is to pursue distant uncertainties and to pay ASCAP, without a murmur, the while exactly what it asks.

In sincere bewilderment, this department joins those who ask: Where does that get you?

• •

Peter Burnup, London editor of Quigley Publications, reports that the chi-chi premiere of Sir Alexander Korda's film of Oscar Wilde's play, "An Ideal Husband," took place at the Carlton Theatre the night that Hugh Dalton resigned as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"Drama," Burnup relates, "always attends a Korda occasion. Life (as the more informed among the glittering premiere mob remembered to be Wilde's own phrase) had caught up with art. The crisis of the film occurs when a Member of Parliament in the House asks the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the forthcoming Budget. Unlike Dalton, Korda's Chancellor replies: 'I cannot anticipate the budget'."

Newsreel Parade

ERIC JOHNSTON urging action against Communists in the film industry is a hightlight in all current reels. Other events covered are the Food Train reaching the end of its journey, Paris fur fashions, and various sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 25—Food Train ends run. Massachusetts campa[illegible] p help end hunger abroad. Tyrone Po[illegible] in Athens. Largest telescope mirror. Jap mines on West Coast. Eric Johnston defends right of films to remain free. Sports: Boxing, hunting.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 223—Eric Johnston denounces Reds. Food Train ends tour. Newark calls off battle of Newark Bay. Twenty-ton telescope lens. French stag hunt.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 27—Eric Johnston urges action against Reds in film industry. The 1947 All-American football team.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 93—America's gift of friendship. Eric Johnston strikes at Communism. Fur fashions. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 28—Prime Minister Attlee's daughter weds. Eric Johnston wars on Reds. Giant lens ready for assembly. Paris fur fashions. Food train ends journey.

Boycott of Theatre Ordered by Cardinal

Philadelphia, Nov. 23.—In a letter to pastors in the Philadelphia archdiocese, Dennis Cardinal Dougherty has instructed the area's 1,000,000 Catholics not to attend the Fox Theatre here for "at least one year," because that 20th Century-Fox house has refused to discontinue showing "Forever Amber."

Harold W. Seidenberg, of the company, made no comment on the boycott but said that a new film would open at the Fox on Wednesday.

The letter in part, stated: "At all Masses on Sunday, Nov. 23, please have the goodness to warn your flock against attendance upon theatres which exhibit moving pictures condemned by the National Catholic Legion of Decency, and especially 'Forever Amber' and 'The Outlaw.'

"Your parishioners should be especially warned against attending the Fox Theatre of Philadelphia and any of its ramifications, if such exist. The prohibition is to last for at least one year from the present date."

J. L. & S. Questions

(*Continued from page* 1)

which was prohibited from using double features in Loop and outlying houses considered competition to the Jackson Park Theatre under the decision which was upheld by the Supreme Court, holdings are strictly financial and B. & K. is without any voice in the McVickers operation. Jones contends that the theatre should not come under the ban and that inasmuch as neither the McVickers nor Jones, Linick and Schaeffer were named in the Jackson Park anti-trust complaint they are not defendants and therefore should not be subject to any of the penalties, irrespective of their stockholders.

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Gentleman's Agreement

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and in Chicago is—

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"GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT"
with Celeste Holm
Anne Revere • June Havoc
Albert Dekker • Jane Wyatt
Dean Stockwell • Sam Jaffe
Produced by
DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Screen Play by
MOSS HART
Directed by ELIA KAZAN

20th
CENTURY-FOX

E-L Will Extend Cooperative Ads

Entire field exploitation force of Eagle-Lion will assemble in New York Nov. 29-30 for a meeting at which Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity will outline plans for augmented nationwide cooperative campaigns with exhibitors on forthcoming major Eagle-Lion product.

Cooperative campaigns will be increased for "T-Men," "Northwest Stampede" in Cinecolor, "Mickey" in Cinecolor, "Adventures of Casanova" and "Prelude to Night."

Argentine Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

year, and said the Argentine government will then have to face large scale public protest since Hollywood pictures are held in highest public favor in that country. Some 400,000 Argentinans attend American motion pictures every week, he said. Typical of the extent to which the supply of American product has dwindled in Argentina, M-G-M has but five unreleased pictures on hand there now and Columbia has only three.

De Cruz indicated that Argentine studios are making a concerted effort to persuade U. S. producers to use facilities there. He pointed out that Argentine production costs are less than half of those in America and somewhat less than in Mexico. He said that Tim Durant, Charles Chaplin's agent in Argentina, is now surveying production possibilities there and producer Hunt Stromberg is presently working toward the establishment of production arrangements whereby American and Argentine capital would share costs.

Canada to Ask

(*Continued from page* 1)

has warned the film industry that greater production activity in the Dominion is desirable as a move to offset imports from the U. S. and to avoid enforcement of control regulations against American productions.

Frank O'Byrne, general manager of Rank's Queensway Studios at New Toronto, and president of the Film Producers Association, foresees considerable impetus to film-making in the Dominion.

As reported on Friday, it is understood that American film producers have made overtures to Howe offering to invest a 25 per cent ratio of profits from Canadian distribution of their films in government bonds, thus leaving a share of revenue in the country.

It was intimated that Howe wants a larger share of excess film revenues left in Canada, otherwise imports will have to be decreased by control measures.

Sell Shows Quickly
With Filmack's New
PREVUE
TRAILER
SERVICE
Investigate this new, low-cost source of supply! Send bookings for a week's trial FREE!
FILMACK
1327 S. Wabash
Chicago

News Briefs . . .

APPELLATE Division of New York Supreme Court on Friday upheld the lower court's dismissal of the Hughes Tool Co. suit to prevent former city license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and police commissioner Arthur W Wallander from barring showing of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw" in New York.

Walsh Orders Striking Projectionists Back

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 23.—Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, has ordered projectionists who walked out of 26 Fox West Coast theatres here in a dispute for first-run wages at second-run theatres which are playing "Forever Amber" first run, to return to their jobs. Walsh sided with FWC in holding that the point in question is part of a contract now being negotiated.

Film Rights to Random House Under Authors Guild Contract

Authors Guild here has closed a contract with Random House, giving the publisher a provisional share of motion picture rights to books. Formula provides that when film rights to a book are sold the publisher shall receive half the money he spends on advertising the book up to 10 per cent of the author's receipts from the sale, and will also receive 10 per cent of any funds paid to the author under the escalator clause, with the understanding that the total amount which the publisher receives shall not be over 15 per cent of the author's share. The clause is contingent upon a sale having been consummated within two years after date of publication.

Paramount Withdraws $100,000 Judgment Against Browne

Paramount at the weekend withdrew its summary judgment motion for $100,000 in Federal Court, here, against George Browne who allegedly in conjunction with Willie Bioff extorted funds from the company during a labor controversy. Withdrawal was "without prejudice."

Triangle Film's Next

Next Triangle production will be based on the musical compositions of Hoagy Carmichael, to be titled "Sleepy Lagoon," it was said here by Buddy Rogers, partner in the company with Mary Pickford and Ralph Cohn.

Lind Named Head of Monogram Exchanges

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—Lloyd L. Lind has been named to supervise Monogram exchange operations with headquarters in New York, Steve Broidy, Monogram president, announced here at the weekend.

Monogram Names Planchadell

Emilio E. Planchadell, formerly assistant manager for Universal in Cuba, has been appointed Monogram representative for that territory. Monogram's former Cuba representative, M. J. Messeri, is at present at the home office in New York conferring with Norton V. Ritchey, Monogram International president, and Bernard J. Gates, Latin American supervisor.

REV. PATRICK J. MASTERSON has been named executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, and Rev. Thomas F. Little has been named assistant executive secretary, by the Roman Catholic Bishops' Motion Picture Committee.

Father Masterson has been acting executive secretary of the National Legion, here, since Monsignor John J. McClafferty became Dean of the National Catholic School of Social Service at Catholic University in Washington. Father Little succeeds Rev. Brendan Larnen, who has been transferred to Aquinas College High School at Columbus, O.

U-I and Geffen-Shane In Production Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—Consummation of a production deal between Universal-International and the new Geffen-Shane Productions, for the filming of "The Salem Frigate," John Jennings' novel, was announced here by U-I executives, with filming scheduled for mid-February.

Geffen-Shane is headed by Maxwell Geffen, publisher of *Omnibook Magazine* and Maxwell Shane, writer, who will have charge of production and will write and direct the screenplay.

'IA' Local No. 771 Elects Robert Klaeger President

Robert Klaeger has been elected president of motion picture film editors IATSE Local No. 771, along with the following slate: Marc Asch, vice-president; Rosemarie Hickson, secretary; Jack Bush, treasurer; Charles Wolfe, business agent, and Howard Duffy and Fred Edwards, sergeants-at-arms. New board of trustees members are Jack Oxton, Leonard Hein and Fred Ahrens.

Gotham Aids Cancer Fund

Realart Pictures, here, which will continue to donate 10 per cent of gross rentals throughout the country on bookings of its "Damon Runyon Show"—"Butch Minds the Baby" and "Tight Shoes," has been joined by the management of the New York Gotham Theatre, which will donate 10 per cent of the admissions from the dual bill now playing that house.

UK Tax Bill Exempts Theatre Front Ads

LONDON, Jan. 23.—Theatre front and foyer advertising has been specifically exempted from the income tax restrictions set forth in the British Government's finance bill, as are technical journals which circulate wholly or mainly abroad. The bill will be considered by the House of Commons shortly.

The bill does, however, call for an allowance of only 50 per cent deductibility of expenses for advertising in newspapers, trailers, and for shop-window displays, etc. At present all advertising spending is income tax exempt.

'Red' Debate

(*Continued from page* 1)

ners; Harry and Jack Cohn, Columbia; Nicholas M. Schenck, Louis B. Mayer and E. J. Mannix, Loew's.

Also, Nate J. Blumberg, John J. O'Connor, Leo Spitz and William Goetz, Universal-International; Spyros P. Skouras and Joseph Schenck, 20th Century-Fox; Ned E. Depinet and Dore Schary, RKO Radio; Francis Harmon, Joyce O'Hara, MPA, and others.

Last week the 20th-Fox board of directors adopted a resolution to terminate the employment of "acknowledged Communists" and of any employe who is cited by a Congressional committee for refusal to answer a question about his political affiliations. Previously, RKO Radio declared it would not employ known Communists but mentioned nothing of terminating the services of Communists now in its employ.

TOA Fiscal

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Coast on Saturday on bookkeeping arrangements.

Arrangements will be made for the collection of assessments from TOA state and regional units by Skouras and for budgetary allotments to the New York office.

En route to California Coyne will stop off at Artesia, New Mexico, to attend a meeting of the New Mexico Theatres Association, Dec. 2-3, at which a formal vote on TOA affiliation is expected.

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VOL. 62. NO. 102 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1947 TEN CENTS

Open-Hearings In Capital on Studio Strike

Johnston and Company Heads Will Be Called

Present plans of the House of Labor sub-committee investigating the Hollywood jurisdictional studio strike now include testimony at full public hearings of Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and company presidents in Washington, an industry source revealed here yesterday.

It was previously understood that sub-committee chairman Carroll Kearns would query these officials on their relations to the strike in a private conference at MPA headquarters in Washington. The industry official said, however, that Kearns now favors bringing out the facts at full public hearings.

The official said he expected that the exact time and place of the hearings in Washington would be announced by Kearns in the near future. Kearns stated previously that he planned the conference for early December and the industry official said it is now the public hearings that will be held at that time.

Colosseum Hearing Now Set for Dec. 2

Chicago, Nov. 24.—A hearing before the National Labor Relations Board between the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America and film distributors set for today in New York was postponed until Tuesday, Dec. 2 upon the insistence of distributors and agreement by the Colosseum, it was announced here today

(*Continued on page* 6)

No Complaints on Building Curbs

By J. A. OTTEN

Washington, Nov. 24.—If the nation's exhibitors and others want to end U. S. Government controls on theatre-building, they had better get busy and tell their Congressmen about it.

That is the conclusion drawn from talks to several Representatives and

(*Continued on page* 6)

House Certifies Contempt Citations Against Ten

Washington, Nov. 24.—By an overwhelming majority the House today approved the contempt citations of 10 Hollywood writers, producers and directors recommended last month by the Committee on Un-American Activities. The contempt actions were taken several weeks ago at hearings conducted by a House Un-American Activities subcommittee when those cited refused to respond when asked if they are or had been members of the Communist party.

At the same time, opening the debate on the floor, chairman J. Parnell Thomas reiterated that the recent hearings were "only the beginning."

The citation against writer Albert Maltz was approved by a vote of 346 to 17, the majority of those voting against it being members of the New York and California delegations. The second citation voted, that against writer Dalton Trumbo, was carried by a vote of 240 to 15. The remaining

(*Continued on page* 6)

UK Settlement Bid: More Playing Time

London, Nov. 24.—British government's contribution to the pattern of an *ad valorem* tax settlement, which now hinges on the outcome of talks between Sir Wilfred Eady and Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport, is said to be, in part, a suggestion for longer screen time to be devoted by British theatres to British films, including short subjects and documentaries.

British Producers, Labor Pledge to Unite on Problems

By PETER BURNUP

London, Nov. 24. — Representatives of British production and film industry workers today agreed to form a joint film production council to meet regularly with British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson and advise the government on domestic production problems.

BOT officials regard the agreement as the greatest step yet taken toward British film industry labor-production peace which the government has demanded as a prerequisite for settlement of the *ad valorem* tax impasse. A speed-up in the

(*Continued on page* 3)

'Black Narcissus' Is Removed from 'C' List

British-made "Black Narcissus", produced by The Archers, presented by J. Arthur Rank, and released in the United States by Universal-International, has been removed from the "C" or condemned classification by the National Legion of Decency". "Revisions made in the film warrant placing it in the "A2" or unobjectionable for adults category," said a statement from the Legion.

"The Legion acknowledges with appreciation the cooperation of the producers and distributors of the picture in effecting this change," the Legion added.

Texas ATO to Fight Upped Prices: Cole

Dallas, Nov. 24.—H. A. Cole, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, today opened the organization's 28th annual convention here with a pledge that the Texas ATO will continue to fight against what he termed the "evil of compulsory advanced admission prices."

"I believe the day is coming soon when we will see an end to the attempts of film distributors to dictate admission prices to theatre owners," he declared. He also stated, in his report on the past year's activity, that all expectations point to as "good a year" for Texas theatre owners in 1948 as in 1947.

MPTO Unit Backs TOA on Ascap

St. Louis, Nov. 24.—Confidence in Theatre Owners of America representatives who are dealing with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers was voted here today at a luncheon meeting of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois. The meeting also heard a report on TOA proceedings

(*Continued on page* 3)

Schenck Heads Group to Set Stand on 'Reds'

Plan Due Today; M-G-M To Fire All Communists

An industry-wide program of opposition to the employment of Communists is expected to be adopted today at a continuation of a meeting on the subject yesterday when close to 50 top-level executives appointed a "policy committee" of 10, headed by Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's. The "policy" group convened immediately following the general meeting, presumably to draft recommendations as to industry policy on employment of those involved in subversive activity.

Proposals drawn up by the committee will be submitted to the full meeting when it convenes again at 10 A.M. today. However, prior to action by the industry leaders, the recommendations will be discussed with James F. Byrnes, MPA special counsel.

Particular attention is being paid to the legal angles of any policy and program which will be developed, presumably because of the restrictions upon joint action imposed by the anti-trust laws. A uniform industry code, it is

(*Continued on page* 6)

Stress Cooperation At Pittsburgh Meet

Pittsburgh, Nov. . 24.—Need of closer and better cooperation between producers and exhibitors was the main topic of speakers, as the 27th annual two-day convention of Allied of Western Pennsylvania was launched in the William Penn Hotel here today.

In his opening remarks, Morris M. Finkel, president of the organization, deplored the fact that only three pro-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Albany Becomes an Official TOA Area

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 24.—Organization of the Albany exchange unit of the Theatre Owners of America was consummated here today at a luncheon-meeting which was addressed by TOA counsel Herman Levy. Harry Lamont, president of Lamont Thea-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Personal Mention

TOM J. CONNORS will leave here today for the Coast to spend Thanksgiving with his family there. He expects to be back in New York in a week.

•

Sir Alexander King, Scottish circuit owner, and Lady King; Mark Ostrer, joint managing director of Gaumont-British, Ltd., and Emeric Pressburger, British producer-writer, and Mrs. Pressburger are among passengers sailing from New York tomorrow for England on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

Harry Goldberg, national advertising director of Warner Theatres, and Victor H. Blanc, attorney for Philadelphia film interests, have been elected to the board of directors of the Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Council.

•

Frank S. Tait, managing director of J. C. Williams Theatres, Ltd., of Australia, and Mrs. Tait, and Arnold Pressburger, producer, are among passengers who will arrive here today from England on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

William B. Jaffe, industry attorney, has been named to supervise arrangements for a dinner at the University Club here on Dec. 11 honoring Union College president Carter Davidson.

•

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio exhibitor relations head, will return to New York today from the Western Pennsylvania Allied meeting in Pittsburgh.

•

Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head, is on a trip to Jacksonville and New Orleans from New York.

•

Robert Z. Leonard, M-G-M producer-director, and Mrs. Leonard are in town from the Coast.

•

William Wright, M-G-M producer left the Coast yesterday for a four-day visit in Cincinnati.

•

Norton V. Ritchey, Monogram International president, is back in town from the Coast.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic distribution vice-president, has returned here from Chicago.

•

Harold Mirisch, Allied Artists vice-president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith

Funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, mother of A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, will be held at 10 A.M. today at St. Joseph's Church, Bronxville, N. Y. Mrs. Smith died last Saturday in Florida. She is also survived by a second son, George Smith, Western division manager for Paramount.

News Briefs . . .

SPYROS P. SKOURAS has joined others, including Postmaster-General Robert E. Hannegan, in purchasing the St. Louis Cardinals and affiliated baseball clubs, the 20th Century-Fox president disclosed here yesterday. Skouras's brothers, Charles and George, are also understood to be in on the deal.

Purchase price is reportedly $3,500,000.

WB Chiefs Donate $4,000 For European Relief

Warner Brothers home office executives yesterday donated $4,000 for the purchase of a carload of wheat to leave for Europe on the next transport carrying the food collected by the Friendship Food Train, of which company president Harry M. Warner is national chairman.

Abandon Combination of Doubles in Cleveland

Cleveland, Nov. 24.—The Broder Plan, under which a group of theatres combine into a reissue circuit playing day and date with cooperative advertising, which was organized locally by E. J. Stutz, with eight theatres participating, has been temporarily discontinued after a two-week trial, to be resumed, according to Stutz, after Jan. 1. Failure to secure a steady flow of top product and also of advertising material is given as the reason for the interruption.

Paul Perez Joins E-L As Trade Press Contact

Paul Perez has been named trade press and newspaper writer at Eagle-Lion's home office, here, by Max Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity director.

At the same time Youngstein named Gladys Murray to handle national merchandise tieups.

Siritzky Launches 16mm. Foreign Film Program

Siritzky International, distributors of foreign films in the U. S. has entered 16mm. distribution with 17 foreign productions. William Shelton, general sales manager, who will head the new department, said distribution will cover Canada and all other English-speaking countries.

Nash Hostess at Opening

Noreen Nash, star of Eagle-Lion's "Red Stallion," will be hostess at the New York premiere of the film at the Gotham Theatre tomorrow night. At 4:30 P.M., child guests will assemble at Cafe Society Uptown for a special "cocktail party," which will precede the premiere.

Ahearne as Production Aide

Hollywood, No. 24.—Fred Ahearne has joined Transatlantic Pictures, the Alfred Hitchcock-Sidney Bernstein production company, as unit production manager for "Rope." Ahearne was recently associated with David O. Selznick.

VERDICT in favor of Republic Pictures International in the $250,000 breach-of-contract action filed by General Overseas Corp., has been handed down by Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind, here.

General Overseas has sought damages for alleged breach-of-contract covering rights to 32 Republic films in Europe.

Dennis Morgan a Guest At Allied Convention

Dennis Morgan will be honor guest of the Allied States national convention in Milwaukee on Dec. 2. Morgan has just completed Warner Brothers' "To The Victor." The company has arranged a series of press interviews and radio appearances for Morgan during his stay in nearby Chicago to exploit his forthcoming "My Wild Irish Rose."

Some Changes Made, More Required in 20th's 'Amber'

Some eliminations have been made in 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" to meet objections of the Legion of Decency, but not enough have been made to cause the Legion to remove the production from its "C," or condemned list, it is understood.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, disclosed here yesterday that he has entered upon discussions with Legion representatives on the subject.

200,000 Protest Against Proposed Pittsburgh Tax

Pittsburgh, Nov. 24.—A crowd of 20,000 stormed into City Hall here to protest against the passing of a proposed 10 per cent tax on all amusements. The Council also was swamped under 200,000 cards signed by protesting fans.

Baltimore, Nov. 24.—Theatres here are showing trailers urging the public to exert pressure on the City Council to beat the proposed 5½ per cent tax on admissions.

Dismisses Abbott-Costello Suit

New York Federal Court Judge Alfred C. Coxe yesterday dismissed author William K. Wells' infringement suit against Bud Abbott and Lou Costello on the grounds that a prior infringement action against the defendants had been dismissed in Federal Court, although it is still pending on appeal in the Federal Court of Appeals.

Wells had alleged that his "Floogle Street" had been infringed upon in the making of the Universal-International Abbott and Costello starrer, "This Is the Life."

Tax Hearing Dec. 12

St. Louis, Nov. 24.—Hearings on a local five per cent amusement tax, postponed to permit Fred Wehrenberg and Clarence Kaimann to attend the TOA meeting in Chicago, have been reset for Dec. 12.

Altec Reception

More than 400 from the industry, including trade press representatives, have been invited to a 10th anniversary reception to be given by Altec Service Corp., on Thursday, Dec. 4, in the Astor Gallery, here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
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14th WEEK! SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
'WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP'
IN PERSON
Georgie PRICE
THINK-A-DRINK HOFFMAN
Extra!
MAXINE SULLIVAN
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM • JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
with KIRK DOUGLAS • RHONDA FLEMING • RICHARD WEBB

ALAN LADD • DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON • LLOYD NOLAN
in "WILD HARVEST"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
THE KING COLE TRIO
CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA!
RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

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Gulf Showmen Hit High Admissions

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 24.—Independent theatre owners of four Southern states went on record as opposing higher admissions at the conclusion of the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States' first annual convention at the Jung Hotel at the weekend, president W. A. Prewitt, Jr., disclosed.

Prewitt was reelected president of the organization, along with Don George, vice-president; Abe Berenson, secretary-treasurer, and Maurice J. Artigues, general manager. Delegates met from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

Speakers included Abram F. Myers, H. A. Cole, Doyle Maynard, F. P. Prat, Jr., Milton Guidry, Willard J. Turnbull, H. D. Epting, J. H. Thompson and A. J. O'Keefe.

Albany TOA Area

(*Continued from page 1*)

tres, was elected temporary chairman.

Following were elected directors: Lamont, Harry Savett, Saul Ullman, John Gardner, George Thornton and Sam Rosenblatt. Three additional directors will be named shortly to comply with an arrangement to have each section of the area represented on the board. Directors will elect permanent officers of the unit.

Leonard Rosenthal, counsel and film-buying adviser for Upstate Theatres, is expected to be appointed unit counsel and a board member.

A minimum of 60 theatres, including the Kallet and Benton circuits and Smalley Theatres, are expected to join ultimately.

Levy, in asking support of TOA, said satisfactory progress is being made in current TOA negotiations with Ascap over its increased rates.

He declared that the current statistical survey being made on advanced admissions is the only practical way of tackling the problem. Levy warned exhibitors that 1948 would see many attempts by states and municipalities to levy additional admission taxes, and he stated that TOA officers are ready to fly anywhere with answering data.

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TWA

TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

WB Wins Cleveland Arbitration Appeal

Warners' appeal for dismissal of a complaint in the clearance arbitration case between Orrville, O., theatres has been granted by the appeal board of the arbitration tribunals in ruling on the Cleveland arbitrator's earlier award.

Maximum clearance which may be granted to the Wayne and Wooster theatres in Wooster, O., over Orrville's Grand and Orr in Orville, in licenses hereafter entered into by all but Warners of the "big five" shall now be 14 days; no clearance shall be granted by the four distributors to the Massillon Grand, Weslin, or Lincoln theatres in Massillon, O., over the Grand or Orr; and, as long as Massillon is given a clearance over Orrville on Warner pictures, no clearance shall be granted by Warners to the Wooster theatres over those in Orrville.

Loew's, Paramount and all intervenors asked that the award be affirmed, and Warners asked that the complaint be dismissed as to it under Sec. 17 of the New York consent decree.

Pittsburgh Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

ducer companies were represented at the meeting especially since the sellers were vitally interested in many of the topics to come up for discussion.

M. A. Rosenberg, chairman of the association's board of directors, declared, "At present, and for a long time, the situation between buyer and seller has been most unhealthy and the only time that the exhibitor got anything was in the courts. The time must come when both parties must meet on common ground to iron out such difficulties."

Among other speakers were H. M. Richey, M-G-M; Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio; vice-president Fred A. Beedle; secretary Fred Herrington and William J. Blatt, convention co-chairman.

Tomorrow, among matters up for discussion will be the ASCAP situation; tax problems, and the association's opposition to showings at road-show prices since proponents of tax measures appear to be making quite a play at the public's paying such prices.

There will also be committee reports, election of officers, a cocktail party and the annual banquet.

MPTO Unit Backs

(*Continued from page 1*)

in Chicago from Fred Wehrenberg, chairman of the TOA board of directors and president of the regional MPTO.

In addition to authorizing regional meetings within its territory, the conclave today also adopted the regional board recommendation to name Andy Dietz as MPTO contact man to reach prospective members in Missouri and Illinois. Dietz will be retained on a part-time basis.

Alliance Kills Tax

ALLIANCE, O., Nov. 24.—A proposed three per cent amusement tax has been voted down by the city council.

'Bush Christmas' Opens Tomorrow

"Bush Christmas," Prestige Picture released here through Universal-International, and featuring Chips Rafferty and John Fernside, will open here tomorrow at the Park Avenue Theatre.

The story of a group of youngsters who get lost in the Australian Bush and track down horse thieves, it was reviewed from London by William Pay in *Motion Picture Daily* on June 23, 1947. Pay in his review said: "It is a righteous-conquering-the-wicked story and put together extremely well . . . it is bound to be of strong appeal to children throughout the world."

Odeon Will Absorb Rank Finance Unit

LONDON, Nov. 24.—J. Arthur Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp., Ltd., originally formed by him to implement purchase of controlling interests in film companies including Gaumont-British, is slated to sell its stock and capital to Rank's Odeon Theatres. The move, it is claimed, will simplify consolidation of the British industry leader's film interests, and will serve to rebut trade union allegations that Rank is more interested in exhibition than in production by demonstrating that his exhibition interests have considerable stake in production.

A Rank statement discloses that Odeon has interests in 725 theatres overseas, including 115 in Australia, 138 in Canada, 130 in Italy, 143 in New Zealand and 130 in South Africa. He claims growing revenue from these and associated distributors means increased foreign currency for Britain, and that his films serve to spur British exports through increased advertisements his films afford British goods.

UK United Effort

(*Continued from page 1*)

Sir Wilfred Eady-F. W. Allport tax settlement talks is expected to result directly.

The agreement was arrived at during the long-heralded meeting of the British Film Producers Association with the Film Industry Employes Council at BOT headquarters. The conference resulted in both sides pledging to exercise all of their power to secure the utmost in production. The unions conceded that the producers are doing all possible to increase production and inferred that they will abandon their attacks against producers. This was taken to indicate there will be an end to the continual succession of strike threats and demonstrations and that the unions appreciate their responsibility to the nation in the present crisis.

Discussed at the meeting, in which the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association participated, was the *ad valorem* tax-and-U. S. embargo situation, forthcoming British production with a view toward ensuring that studios will be fully occupied, longer running time for British films in British theatres, and encouraging U. S. companies to produce here.

'Bishop's' Benefit To Net $120,000

LONDON, Nov. 24.—Special barricades have been set up by police in the vicinity of the Leicester Square Theatre in preparation for the Command Performance there tomorrow evening of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," which will yield $74,000 for the British film industry charities. It is expected that the amount which the charity will receive ultimately as a result of the showing will be $120,000 when program advertisements and sales are totaled with theatre receipts.

Costs are being met by British trade associations and J. Arthur Rank, the latter bearing the cost of the performance and floral decorations. Personal performances will be contributed by actors Ralph Richardson, Robert Montgomery, Loretta Young, Bob Hope and others, and the program will be rounded out with a screening of Rank's Technicolor film on the wedding of Britain's Princess Elizabeth to the Duke of Edinburgh. Following the Command Performance, the American Motion Picture Association, in behalf of U. S. companies, will hold a reception at the Savoy for the stars, trade executives, and officials of the industry charity drive.

'Command Performance' Here

There will be a special 'Command Performance' of "The Bishop's Wife" here tonight paralleling the screening in London before Their Majesties. Sir Francis Evans, British Consul General, and Lady Evans will be hosts at the New York screening.

RKO Radio, WB Ask Trust Suit Dismissal

RKO Radio and Warners yesterday filed in New York Federal Court a general denial of charges made by Radio Center, Inc., operator of the Mosque, Newark, in its $3,648,000 anti-trust suit against the majors. Both companies asked for dismissal.

Paramount yesterday was granted an extension until Dec. 1 for filing answers to the suit which maintains the distributors monopolized exhibition by allegedly failing to permit Radio Center to bid for first-run pictures.

Companies Get Delay In Chicago Filing

CHICAGO, Nov. 24.—Defendants in the anti-trust suit filed by Seymour Simon in behalf of the Calumet Theatre, Hammond, Ind., were given an extension until Dec. 24 to file answers to the complaint. Miles Seeley is attorney for the defendants which include all major distributors (except Loew's) and Balaban and Katz, Publix-Great States, and Warner Brothers circuits; and James E. Coston.

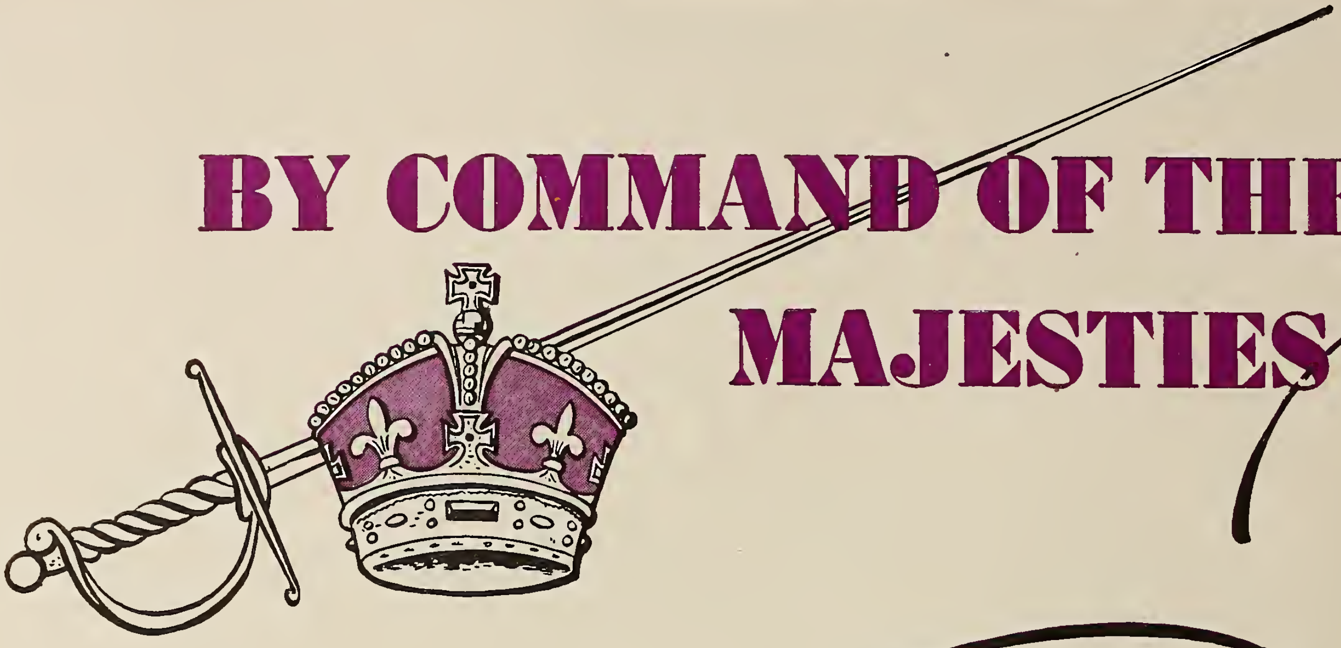
Fire Destroys House

RUSSEL, Kan., Nov. 24. — The Dream Theatre, operated bv Dale Danielson, was destroyed by fire. Estimated cost of replacement is above $100,000.

Sternfeld on His Own

David Sternfeld of 20th Century-Fox's home office art department, has left the company to form his own advertising art service, to be known as the Fieldston Studios.

BY COMMAND OF THEIR MAJESTIES



ENGLAND'S GREATEST TRIBUT

Tonight

*

NOVEMBER 25, 1947

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents

Cary Loretta David

GRANT · YOUNG · NIVEN

in

"THE BISHOP'S WIFE"

with **Monty Woolley** • JAMES GLEASON • GLADYS COOPER • Directed by HENRY KOSTER

Screen Play by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD and LEONARDO BERCOVICI • From the Novel by ROBERT NATHAN
RELEASED THROUGH RKO RADIO PICTURES

at the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, London . . . for the benefit of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund.

TO A MOTION PICTURE

Nine Features Are Started on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Start of shooting on nine pictures and completion of camera work on seven others brings the production level up to 39 features.

Shooting started on "Blazing Across the Pecos," Columbia; "Cork-Screw Alley," Eagle-Lion; "Easter Parade," M-G-M; "Charlie Chan in New Orleans," Monogram; "Sealed Verdict," Paramount; "I, Jane Doe," "Thunder in the Forest" and "Under California Stars," all Republic; and "The Window," RKO Radio.

Shooting was finished on "My Dog Rusty," Columbia; "Song of the Drifter," Monogram; "Oklahoma Badlands," Republic; "Berlin Express," RKO Radio; "Half-Past Midnight" and "Ballad of Furnace Creek," both 20th-Fox and "Johnny Belinda," Warner.

Building Curbs

(*Continued from page 1*)

Senators who will handle the building-control legislation at the next session of Congress. They claim they have heard no protests against existing restrictions on theatres and add that as long as no one is getting "hurt," they think they will favor an extension of controls past the Feb. 29 expiration date.

Actually, the present housing and rent law merely provides that the Housing Expediter may require a permit for a theatre building so long as a shortage of building materials exists. But the Expediter has interpreted this to mean that he must require one as long as there is a shortage. Government officials expect the shortage to continue for some time.

Rep. Gamble, chairman of the joint House-Senate Housing Committee, which recently conducted hearings all over the country on building problems, declared he thinks his committee will favor continuation of the controls. "I don't recall a single witness testifying against them," he declared, "and many important witnesses asked even tighter and more-inclusive controls. We can't afford to send building costs any higher by releasing more construction."

Rep. Wolcott, chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee, which will draft the new construction bill next year, says he intends to follow the views of members of the joint housing committee.

Double Memphis Tax On Sunday Showings

MEMPHIS, Nov. 24.—Under a new increase, the city's yearly earnings from Sunday motion picture tax receipts will jump from $17,000 to $41,000. Funds from Sunday shows are turned over to the welfare commission for relief purposes.

Amounts paid by each theatre ranged from $7.50 per Sunday for a neighborhood house to $45 for large downtown houses. The increase brings neighborhood payments to $15 a week and loop theatres to $75.

Protest Capone Film

CLEVELAND, Nov. 24.—The Cleveland Cinema Club has passed a resolution protesting the making of a picture based on the life of Al Capone. The state PTA and the Federation of Women Clubs plan to send protests to the Motion Picture Association.

Review

"Daisy Kenyon"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

WITH standard Hollywood technique, a screenplay of brooding emotions and marital uncertainties has been fashioned for Joan Crawford in "Daisy Kenyon." Endowed with good production values and an impressive cast that also includes Dana Andrews, Henry Fonda and Ruth Warrick, the picture, despite an occasional unconvincing moment, has been packaged by knowing hands for a good box-office showing.

In the title role, Miss Crawford has to go through some exacting acting chores that range from the flippant to the intense and turbulent. The story, strictly adult fare, presents her as a successful commercial artist, who appears to be in love with Andrews, a prominent attorney. Unfortunately, Andrews is already married, and the father of two charming girls. The situation seems resolved, however, when Miss Crawford meets Fonda, falls quickly in love, and marries him.

As the screenplay by David Hertz, based on the Elizabeth Janeway novel, really gets underway, it probes beneath the surface of emotions, showing how strange and unpredictable human beings can be under crisis. Andrews' wife chances to overhear a phone call he makes to Miss Crawford, and as a result, divorce proceedings are taken. Soon, just about everyone's life is knocked abruptly out of focus. A number of complications follow, some unfolding engrossingly, before Miss Crawford and Andrews return intelligently to their respective spouses.

Andrews gives a smooth and efficient performance, and while Fonda shows professional competence in his delineation, the role itself is not always credible. By way of enjoyable touches, the photography turns up some realistic scenes in Cape Cod and New York, and also takes the audience into some popular night clubs, to offer brief glimpses of columnists such as Walter Winchell and Leonard Lyons. Otto Preminger produced and directed.

Running time, 99 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release in December.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Schenck Heads

(*Continued from page 1*)

believed, could come into conflict with these restrictions. Other members of the "policy" group are: Joseph Schenck, Dore Schary, Albert Warner, Barney Balaban, J. Cheever Cowdin, Harry Cohn, Walter Wanger, Samuel Goldwyn and Donald M. Nelson.

Hopes for Action Today

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said he is "hopeful" the matter will be determined today and added the conference so far has been "completely harmonious." He said his previously-stated position favoring action by all companies on a joint basis still stands. However, he declined to say whether the producers now are willing to go along on this—originally they had rejected the suggestion—or whether they prefer to act individually. A major part of yesterday's meeting was devoted to a review of the entire situation by Johnston and his analysis of the need for an industry policy.

Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production chief, stated flatly he intends to dismiss any known Communist from the studio, regardless of possible legal repercussions. He said the policy is to drop members of the "party" when evidence so identifies them and indicated the Government will be asked to assist in unveiling "Reds."

Industry Leaders Present

Yesterday's meeting was attended by representatives of independents as well as member companies of the MPA, including Sam Goldwyn and Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Following is the complete list of those present:

Barney Balaban, Y. Frank Freeman and Henry Ginsberg, Paramount; Nicholas M. Schenck, Louis B. Mayer and E. J. Mannix, Loew's; Harry and Jack Cohn and Abe Schneider, Columbia; Jack and Albert Warner and Robert W. Perkins, Warners; Ned E. Depinet, Dore Schary and Gordon Youngman, RKO; Spyros Skouras, Otto Koegel, Joseph Schenck and Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox; Nate J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, William Goetz and Charles Prutzman, Universal-International; Walter Wanger, Samuel Goldwyn, William Levy, James Mulvey, James F. Byrnes, Paul V. McNutt, Donald Russell, Earle Hammons, Paul Terry, Edward A. Golden, and James R. Grainger, Republic vice-president.

MPA legal advisory committees also were on hand, one comprising Austin Keough, J. Robert Rubin and Nate Spingold, for home offices, and the other consisting of Maurice Benjamin, Mendel Silberberg, Herbert Freston and Alfred Wright, for studios.

Representing the MPA with Johnston were Francis Harmon, George Borthwick, Sidney Schreiber, Joyce O'Hara, Edward Cheyfitz, Kenneth Clark and Tom Waller.

Reds Hit U. S. Industry

The Moscow publication *Soviet Art* said leaders of Russia's motion picture industry had been told that "it is the obligation of Soviet cinema workers to enter into a merciless war with American motion picture expansion and to emerge from this war as victors," according to press dispatches reaching here from the Soviet.

Reelect Sochin Head Of Cincinnati Variety

CINCINNATI, Nov. 24. — Irving Sochin, U-I branch manager, was reelected chief barker of Variety Club, Tent No. 3. Edwin Booth, M-G-M branch manager, was named first and Harry Hartman, WCPO sportscaster, was named second chief barker. William Onie, Monogram manager was reelected treasurer and Saul M. Greenberg, theatre attorney, was reelected property master.

Installation dinner has been set for Dec. 1.

Cleveland Variety Names Mooney Head

CLEVELAND, Nov. 24.—Variety Club here has elected Milton A. Mooney, president of Cooperative Theatres, to succeed Nate Schultz as chief barker. The following additional officers were also named: First vice-president, Leroy Kendis; second vice-president, Lou Ratener; treasurer, I. J. Schmertz; recording secretary, S. Abrams; sergeant-at-arms, Al Friedlander. Harry Weiss was named to handle publicity.

Probe's '2nd Phase' Awaits Film Study

Washington, Nov. 24.—J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities, said here today that the "second phase" of the hearings on alleged Communist activity in Hollywood would not open until his committee had finished its "careful study" of "suspect films."

Commenting on House action today in approving the contempt citations of 10 Hollywood writers, producers and actors, Thomas declared "the overwhelming vote for the contempt citations is the best support our committee has had in a long time."

House Certifies

(*Continued from page 1*)

eight citations were certified by voice vote.

Those citations involved: John Howard Lawson, Alvah Bessie, Ring Lardner, Jr., Lester Cole, Adrian Scott, Herbert Biberman, Edward Dmytryk and Samuel Ornitz.

Representative Karl E. Mundt, speaking in favor of the citations, congratulated the industry on its recent "progressive steps" toward eliminating Communists. Stating that industry heads were meeting today in New York "in order to pass additional regulations eliminating from the payroll people who are Communists," Mundt called this "a fine, commendaable attitude."

Arguing against certifying the citations, Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas (Dem., Cal.) maintained that "as a result of the hearing the entire motion picture industry stands condemned of having produced films with Communist propaganda."

The citations now will go to the district attorney who will prepare them for presentation to a grand jury. The witnesses cited face a maximum sentence of one year in jail and/or a $1,000 fine.

Colosseum Hearing

(*Continued from page 1*)

by A. M. Van Dyke, Colosseum president.

Reason for the hearing, now that Colosseum is recognized by the NLRB and is permitted to file cases and call for elections, is that although distributors are willing to bargain with individual exchanges, the Colosseum is seeking a blanket contract with each film company covering salesmen nationally. Distributors oppose this, claiming selling conditions vary in different territories.

Van Dyke says he sees no difference in salesmen's problems in Chicago, San Francisco and New York or places in between. If Colosseum wins its point before the NLRB, an election will be called among the salesmen to determine if they desire Colosseum to be their sole bargaining agent.

Van Dyke also made it known that within the past 30 days lodges have been organized in Buffalo, Oklahoma City and Memphis. Only territories remaining unorganized are New Haven and New York.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V[illegible] 62. NO. 103 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

Film Exports Are Running 45% Over '46

Equipment Exports Up About 150%, Says U.S.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Despite additional restrictions abroad, exports of U. S. films will run about 45 per cent higher this year than last, according to a report issued here today by Commerce Department motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden.

He estimates that exports of equipment will be about 150 per cent above 1946.

During the first nine months exports of exposed or developed 35mm. and 16mm. positive and negative feature films totaled 239,790,538 feet, nominally valued at $6,519,808, compared to 210,175,437 feet valued at $5,308,860 for Jan.-Sept. 1946. The bulk of this was accounted for by 35mm. positive features.

Shipments to the United Kingdom in the first nine months of the year—

(*Continued on page* 2)

Finkel Reelected W. Pa. Allied Head

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 25.—All officers and directors were reelected for another year at the 27th annual convention of the Western Pennsylvania Allied Theatre Owners, which was brought to a close in the William Penn Hotel, here, tonight. They are: Morris M. Finkel, president; Fred A. Beedle, vice-president; Fred J. Herrington, secretary; Joseph Gellman, treasurer.

Board of directors includes M. A. Rosenberg, L. M. Conrad, George J. Corcoran, H. Goldberg, Dr. C. E. Herman, Norman R. Mervis, Frank

(*Continued on page* 7)

Royal Wedding Film Opens Here Today

All the soaring grandeur and solemnity of the Royal Wedding has been vividly captured in a 30-minute J. Arthur Rank Technicolor subject. Rushed here at record-making speed, a special screening of the film, titled "The Royal Wedding," was held at the Universal-International home office last night. With the royal nup-

(*Continued on page* 2)

$6,896,632 Nine-Month Net for RKO

Consolidated net profit of RKO and subsidiary companies for the first nine months of 1947 was $6,896,632, including profit on the sale of capital assets. After taxes and all other charges, this was equivalent to approximately $1.76 per share on the 3,924,913 shares of common stock outstanding. This compares with a net profit of $9,963,906 for the first nine months of 1946, equivalent to approximately $2.59 per share on 3,839,600 shares outstanding on Sept. 28, 1946.

Profits on the sale of capital assets amounted to $4,764,766. This includes a profit of $3,158,913 on the sale of Pathe News to Warners during the third quarter.

Third quarter profit was $1,789,285,

(*Continued on page* 8)

N.Y. 1st Run Receipts Off

Some New York first-run theatremen already are finding evidence of pre-Christmas competition from shopping centers.

Current week's grosses range from poor to very good, but the majority appear mediocre. Monday's inclement weather kept grosses low for the day, but this is expected to be more than offset by tomorrow's Thanksgiving Day and Friday's takes, Friday being a school holiday.

Frank Sinatra, and "Her Husband's

(*Continued on page* 6)

EMPLOYMENT BAN ON SUBVERSIVES

Allied Returning to D. of J. on Ascap

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—On the basis of Ascap's recently announced rates for per-piece licensing and the difficulty in working out the necessary details for such licensing, exhibitors should have no trouble demonstrating to the Justice Department that the Ascap consent decree offers no relief, Allied States counsel Abram F. Myers declared here today.

Myers said Allied's entire Ascap program would be determined at the coming board meeting and convention at Milwaukee, and indicated that the Justice Department would soon again be hearing from National Allied and Allied units on the exhibitors' need for "relief" from Ascap.

Film Rights to Gatti Expedition to Mills

Motion picture rights to the Gatti-Hallicrafters African expedition, which will embark from New York on Friday, have been purchased by a group headed by E. C. Mills, a member of the United Artists board of directors and former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Associated with Mills are Fred McConnell, veteran film sales executive and producer, and Joseph Fliesler, publicity-advertising executive and former New York exhibitor. A company to handle the feature-length pic-

(*Continued on page* 8)

10 Cited for Contempt To Be Ousted; Known 'Reds' Not to Be Hired

In a move restricted to the production end of the industry in Hollywood, chief executives of major companies and representatives of independent producers concluded a two-day meeting here yesterday on the subject of employment of known Communists by adopting a policy which calls for the following:

1) Immediate discharge or suspension without compensation of the 10 Hollywood men cited for contempt by the House of Representatives, without re-employment unless they are acquitted or purge themselves of contempt and declare under oath they are not Communists.

2) No Communist or member of any group which advocates the overthrow of the Government by any illegal method is to be employed, if known to be such.

3) Hollywood talent guilds to be invited to work with man-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Trial of 10 Cited May Be in January

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—House-approved contempt citations against 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers may be presented to the Federal Grand Jury here next Monday and might reach trial by mid-January. Attorney General Tom Clark has ordered U. S. District Attorney George Fay to expedite the case as much as possible.

Meanwhile, House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman Thomas said that his group had not yet definitely decided to send a subcommittee to Hollywood to wind up the first phase of its film industry investigation.

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Thanksgiving Day, a legal holiday.**

"Captain from Castile"

[*20th Century-Fox*]—Lavish Action Drama

ACTION, drama and suspense are present in generous measure in this richly produced motion picture based on Samuel Shellabarger's novel of the Spanish conquest of Mexico in the early 16th Century.

Tyrone Power, as the Captain from Castile, is a durable, death-defying cavalier whose exploits herein are sure to win the hearty approbation of his large following in all age groups in your audience.

Photographed in Technicolor, the production is often a spectacle of scenic backgrounds in Spain and the semi-tropic jungles and mountainous areas of Mexico. Shown to full advantage are the costumes of the Spanish dons of the period, the battle regalia of the motley "army" that followed Fernand Cortez into the New World and the colorful garb and the temples of the Aztec subjects of the Emperor Moctezuma.

Under Henry King's direction, the emphasis is on action. There is plenty of it, hard-riding pursuers and pursued, swordmanship, physical encounters, violence of varied kinds and military maneuvers. Romance,

(*Continued on page* 8)

Personal Mention

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave here tomorrow for the Coast.

•

Dore Schary, RKO Radio executive vice-president, will be in Philadelphia Dec. 4 to receive the annual "Unity" award from the Golden Slipper Square Club there.

•

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is scheduled to testify today before the President's air policy commission in Washington.

•

Al Lowe, United Artists division manager for Australasia, South Africa and the Far East, will leave here tomorrow by plane for Johannesburg.

•

Henry A. Linet, Universal-International's Eastern advertising manager, has returned to New York from a brief Bahamas vacation.

•

Michael F. Mayer, son of New York theatre operator Arthur L. Mayer, has joined the law firm of Spring and Eastman here.

•

Charles Moskowitz, Loew vice-president and treasurer, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for New York.

•

Lou Frick, 20th Century-Fox press book editor, and Mrs. Frick have become parents of their third child, a son.

528 Theatres in San Francisco

Washington, Nov. 26.—There are 528 theatres with a total seating capacity of 418,450 operating in the San Francisco territory, according to the San Francisco theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

As the ninth in a series of 31 directories, the survey reveals that 137 theatres, with a seating capacity of 149,498, are located in the territory's three largest cities, San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento.

Ten drive-ins, with a total capacity of 5,000 automobiles, are currently operating in the territory.

Sir Alexander King To Scotland Today

Sir Alexander King, operator of an extensive circuit in Scotland, and former general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, London, will leave here today with Mrs. King for Glasgow after six weeks in New York and Hollywood.

Sir Alexander, prominent in influential exhibitor circles in the British Isles, is now a member of the CEA general council and the Cinematograph Films Council.

News Briefs

J. ARTHUR RANK'S "Hamlet," now in production in England with Laurence Olivier as star and director, will be released in the U. S. in the same manner as the Rank-Olivier production of "Henry V"—on a sponsored road-show basis, probably backed by the Theatre Guild—Jock Lawrence, president of the U. S. Rank Organization, said here yesterday following his return from England. The picture is due to be completed on March 1.

Commenting on Rank's stepped-up $40,000,000 1948 production schedule, Lawrence said that all large-scale Rank pictures in the program will be geared for world-wide distribution.

New Jersey Delegation Set for Allied States Convention

A delegation of New Jersey Allied representatives, headed by president Edward Lachman, will attend Allied States' national convention in Milwaukee on Dec. 1-3. Representing Jersey Allied at the Milwaukee Nov. 29-30 Allied board meeting will be Lachman, Irving Dollinger, Harry H. Lowenstein and Lee Newbury.

Denver, Nov. 25.—John Wolfberg, president, and Joe Ashby, will head a delegation of at least 14 Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres members to the annual Allied convention in Milwaukee next week.

Century Theatres Rally Staged for FJP Drive

A rally staged at Century Theatres yesterday as part of the industry's campaign to raise $325,000 for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies was attended by circuit executives and district managers. Appeals for contributions were made by Fred Schwartz, vice-president of the circuit, and Edward Schreiber, its publicity-advertising director, who is also director of the amusement division of the campaign.

Loew Managers Meet Here

Second of three meetings to be held with managers of Loew's New York theatres took place here this week, with Joseph R. Vogel, Oscar A. Doob and Eugene Picker of the theatre operating department, and Ernie Emerling and Eddie Dowden of Loew's advertising department, outlining selling plans for December-January bookings.

$4,000 for Europe Aid

Warner home office executives were joined by industry associates in donating $4,000 for the purchase of a carload of wheat for the European food collection made by the Friendship Food Train.

Tower to Australia Post

W. S. Tower, Jr., commercial manager of Westrex Corp., has been appointed managing director of Western Electric Co. (Australia) Pty., Ltd., succeeding R. E. Warn, who will return to this country for reassignment.

Snyder, Eccles Warn Against Tax Cut

Washington, Nov. 25.—Two top Administration fiscal officials today told Congress they opposed any general tax reduction in the near future.

Treasury Secretary Snyder told the House Banking Committee that any reduction should be postponed until after foreign aid and debt reduction had been taken care of, while Federal Reserve Board Chairman Eccles warned the Senate Banking Committee that tax reduction now would be too inflationary.

UK Press Impugns Odeon-GCF Deal

London, Nov. 25.—Acid questioning by the London Press of the motives behind the proposed sale of J. Arthur Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp., Ltd., to his Odeon Theatres, today forced the British industry leader to publicly defend the deal.

Following Rank's announcement of the Odeon acquisition, the *London Times* hastened to counsel Odeon stockholders to demand "full information as to GCF ownership and business." The *Financial Times* held there is a pressing demand for GCF to publish a consolidated balance sheet, otherwise Odeon stockholders are buying "the proverbial pig in a poke."

These and other equally inferential press comments today brought forth a Rank statement claiming that the simplification of operations effected by the deal are important within the framework of his interests, but are not of wide public interest. He termed press comment as "misinformed and mischievous," and asserted that the transaction was financed from Odeon resources. He said shareholders of 90 per cent of Odeon stock were consulted and approved the deal, which has been described unofficially as involving over 1,000,000 pounds ($4,000,000).

Critics of the deal are asking how it can increase film production, what are the assets and liabilities of GCF, does the deal imply transfer of cash or Odeon stocks, and other similar questions.

Under the new link, Odeon will control General Film Distributors, Gaumont-British and all other Rank subsidiaries.

The deal is said to have aroused considerable interest among U. S. companies which have interests in Rank enterprises. United Artists and 20th Century-Fox, for example, have interests in Odeon and G-B, respectively. However, spokesmen for U. S. companies are withholding comment pending consultation.

$50,000 Theatre Fire

Buffalo, Nov. 25.—Fire of undetermined origin early today swept the Kenmore Theatre building in suburban Kenmore, causing damage which officials said may exceed $50,000, and minor injury to one fireman.

Newsreel Parade

THE Royal Wedding comprises the full footage of four of the newsreels and partial footage of the fifth.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 26—The Royal Wedding.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 224—The Royal Wedding.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 28—Elizabeth weds Philip.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 94—The [illegible] Wedding.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 29—The Royal Wedding. Football.

Royal Wedding Film

(*Continued from page 1*)

tial a topic of interest to millions, this fascinating films is sure to have immense drawing power for almost any theatre. U-I will distribute here.

Before showing the entire wedding celebration, including the activities within Westminster Abbey, the film turns back to charming and intimate glimpses in the lives of the bridal pair.

Starting today, the film will be shown at Loew's State and Criterion in New York and Loew's Metropolitan in Brooklyn. There are only two prints in the country, necessitating a "bicycle-relay" service between the former two houses today. Forty-eight more prints are due here on Friday and 50 more next Tuesday.

At the special screening last night, Kay Harrison, managing director of British Technicolor, who has just arrived from England, explained that besides New York the films are now in seven world capitals. He described the speed with which the film deliveries were accomplished and many of the technical difficulties in making it.

Newsreels here are now showing regular black-and-white shots of the wedding. M. H.

Film Exports Up

(*Continued from page 1*)

despite the U. S. embargo—exceeded exports for all of 1946, Golden reports. UK shipments were prior to the *ad valorem* tax enacted last summer. During the period, the U. S. industry sent to the UK 9,523,059 feet of 35mm. positive film, valued at $412,896, and 982,953 feet of 35mm. negative, valued at $48,264. For the entire 12 months of 1946, the figures were 9,967,214 feet, valued at $397,345, and 822,173 feet, valued at $35,220.

Rawstock exports were up sharply in the first nine months, amounting to more than 357,000,000 feet, valued at $5,281,744, compared to 201,000,000 feet, worth $3,000,000, previously.

Dollar value of motion picture equipment, including cameras, projectors, sound equipment, arc lamps and screens amounted to $11,693,697 during the first nine months of the year, compared to about $3,900,000 in the first nine months of 1946.

Approve Nine Projects

Washington, Nov. 25.—The Office of the Housing Expediter has approved nine theatre applications, worth $315,477, and turned down 21 which would have cost $1,174,195.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

M-G-M's
GREEN DOLPHIN STREET
is the all-time record-breaking attraction of
LOEW'S **CRITERION**
B'way & 45th St. • Doors open Today 12 Noon
Continuous Performances • Midnight Show Every Night

7th BIG WEEK!

CLOAKED IN GLORY!

The time is ripe for the Biggest Spectacular Movie in Ten Years! M-G-M's "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" *(Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart and thousands more)* is just what the public wants—and our Friendly customers know best how to handle it! Such screen magic as tidal waves, earthquakes, savage tribal uprisings, plus a love story for the masses hasn't been witnessed in years! All-time record breaker at Criterion, N. Y. Packed theatres, hold-overs everywhere! Get set to set new highs!

LEO, THE WELL-DRESSED LION!

TALK ABOUT THE NEW LOOK! Your theatre will have a prosperous one when you cloak it in the rich M-G-M manner! "THIS TIME FOR KEEPS" is doing sensational business everywhere. (*Technicolor Musical. Esther Williams, Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat*). "CASS TIMBERLANE" (*Lana Turner, Spencer Tracy, Zachary Scott*) is packing Radio City Music Hall. To be followed by "GOOD NEWS" (*Technicolor Musical. June Allyson, Peter Lawford*) which hundreds of happy showmen will play simultaneously with the Music Hall as a Happy New Years attraction!

Mitchum's a private detective, a little on the shady side—who makes a buck wherever he can find it. Greer's a gal with a gun, and a way with men — an exciting combination—but deadly!

A WOMAN...

TRYING TO ESCAPE

HER FUTURE!

ash it's
ILDFIRE!

RKO PRESENTS

ROBERT MITCHUM · JANE GREER

# of the Past

RKO RADIO PICTURES

with KIRK DOUGLAS · RHONDA FLEMING · RICHARD WEBB

RGINIA HUSTON · Produced by WARREN DUFF · Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR · Screen Play by GEOFFREY HOMES

SWG Board Will Resist Firings

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—The newly-elected executive board of the Screen Writers Guild last night took direct charge of the implementation of the resolution adopted by the membership last week to resist any effort on the part of employers to discharge writers on the basis of any political views which do not violate the law. A committee will function in close connection with the Guild's individual representatives at each studio.

Charles Brackett has been delegated to draft a letter to all members of Congress urging passage of the Sabbath Bill, which seeks to abolish the Un-American Activities Committee.

The resolution proposed at last week's membership meeting, which would have required all Guild officers to sign non-Communist affidavits, was withdrawn. Guild spokesman said thc executive committee considered a formal resolution as unnecessary in view of the fact that all new officers had voluntarily pledged to sign such affidavits.

Richard English, magazine writer and novelist, was named by the Guild board to edit "The Screen Writer," succeeding Gordon Kahn, who was one of the "unfriendly 19" witnesses before the House Un-American Activities subcommittee hearings in Washington.

Johnston's Statement on Employment of 'Reds'

FOLLOWING is the complete text of the statement issued by Eric Johnston yesterday on the employment of subversives in the industry. The statement was issued on behalf of the Association of Motion Picture Producers and was joined in by Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

"Members of the Association of Motion Picture Producers deplore the action of the 10 Hollywood men who have been cited for contempt by the House of Representatives. We do not desire to pre-judge their legal rights, but their actions have been a disservice to their employers and have impaired their usefulness to the industry.

"We will forthwith discharge or suspend without compensation those in our employ, and we will not re-employ any of the 10 until such time as he is acquitted or has purged himself of contempt and declares under oath that he is not a Communist.

"On the broader issue of alleged subversive and disloyal elements in Hollywood, our members are likewise prepared to take positive action.

"We will not knowingly employ a Communist or a member of any party or group which advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

"In pursuing this policy, we are not going to be swayed by hysteria or intimidation from any source. We are frank to recognize that such a policy involves dangers and risks. There is the danger of hurting innocent people. There is the risk of creating an atmosphere of fear. Creative work at its best cannot be carried on in an atmosphere of fear. We will guard against this danger, this risk, this fear.

"To this end we will invite the Hollywood talent guilds to work with us to eliminate any subversives; to protect the innocent; and to safeguard free speech and a free screen wherever threatened.

"The absence of a national policy, established by Congress, with respect to the employment of Communists in private industry makes our task difficult. Ours is a nation of laws. We request Congress to enact legislation to assist American industry to rid itself of subversive, disloyal elements.

"Nothing subversive or un-American has appeared on the screen. Nor can any number of Hollywood investigations obscure the patriotic services of the 30,000 loyal Americans employed in Hollywood who have given our government invaluable aid in war and peace."

NY Runs Off

(*Continued from page* 1)

Affairs," should give the Capitol a healthy $77,000 in a second week after a faulty first week's $50,600, the low figure being due, it is said, to Sinatra's absence from the show for three days. "Gentleman's Agreement" is still tops in town, with more than $60,000 claimed for the second week of its Mayfair run. Other estimates are:

"Cass Timberlane," with a stage show at the Music Hall, in a third week, $115,000; "Wild Har[illegible]" King Cole Trio, Randy Brooks[illegible]chestra on stage at the Paramount, third week, $65,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, third week, $45,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, seventh, $34,000; "Life with Father," Warner, 15th, $15,000; "Escape Me Never," Frankie Carle's orchestra, Strand, third week, $37,000; "Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, seventh, $28,000.

Also: "Man About Town," Bijou, fourth, $4,500; "The Lost Moment," Winter Garden, first week, $22,000; "Beware of Pity," Park, five days of a fourth week, $2,500; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 14th week, $7,500; "Tawny Pipit," Little Carnegie, 12th week, $4,000; "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 15th week, $21,000; "Butch Minds the Baby," and "Tight Shoes," Gotham, four days of a second week, $2,100; "So Well Remembered," Palace, fourth week, $13,000.

Fordson Promoted

ATLANTA, Nov. 25.—Charles W. Fordson, former head of the sound and projection department, succeeds S. B. van Delden as sales manager for Wil-Kin Theatre Supply.

'Red' Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

agement for the elimination of subversives in the employ of producers and to aid in safeguarding innocent employes from injury in carrying out the policy.

4) Congress is requested to enact legislation to assist American industry to rid itself of subversive elements.

A statement issued by Eric Johnston on behalf of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood branch of the Motion Picture Association, at the conclusion of yesterday's meeting contained the above decisions and reiterated the industry's contention that "nothing subversive or un-American has appeared on the screen."

Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production chief, said that Lester Cole and Dalton Trumbo, two of the 10 cited by the House for contempt, will be dropped immediately from the company's employ. Both are highly paid writers.

Others of the 10, said to be under contract also, are Ring Lardner, Jr., 20th Century-Fox writer; Adrian Scott and Edward Dmytryk, recently elevated to producer-director status at RKO Radio.

The others cited for contempt, who are said not to be under contract now, are: Albert Maltz, Samuel Ornitz, Alvah Bessie and John Howard Lawson, writers, and Herbert Biberman, producer-director.

Studied Legal Aspects

It is known that legal angles of the decision, which was joined in by Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, were carefully studied during the two days of meetings of the nearly 50 ranking industry executives

There was no indication yesterday of how the termination of services of those under contract will be handled and it appeared that procedures of that kind are left to individual companies to decide.

James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State and special counsel now for MPA, played an extremely important part in the meeting and the decisions reached, it is known.

Byrnes Consulted on Action

The statement issued by Johnston yesterday is understood to contain the vital parts of the recommendations made by an advisory committee of 10, of which Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, was chairman. The advisory committee's recommendations reportedly were discussed at considerable length with Byrnes before being submitted to the meeting and emerged from the latter with but minor changes resulting from discussion thereat. It was adopted unanimously by the meeting.

Among those who spoke at some length at yesterday's meeting were Mayer, Samuel Goldwyn and Mendel Silberberg.

The industry stand adopted yesterday is similar to one proposed by Johnston last summer and rejected by the producers at the time because of the legal complications involved.

Writers, Directors, Actors Union Chiefs to Confer

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Newly-elected Screen Writers Guild president Sheridan Gibney tonight took personal charge of the Guild's interests in the industry policy on Communists announced today in New York, but stated that he would make no comment until he had conferred with the presidents of the Screen Actors Guild and Screen Directors Guild.

Spokesmen for SAG said no statement or action will be issued until the matter has been presented to the board, while SDG officials said president George Stevens was awaiting the complete text of Eric Johnston's statement on the policy formulated in New York.

Thomas Committee Lauds Industry Position on 'Reds'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The industry's stand against Communism was widely hailed on Capitol Hill today.

House Un-American Activities Committee chairman Thomas said industry executives had his "heartiest congratulations," and promised them full committee cooperation in identifying the Communists within the industry. "At the same time," he said, "he wanted to make it emphatically clear that the committe's hearings and exposures will continue."

Rep. Gordon McDonough of California declared the industry was "to be highly complimented," and that the action "gives the public definite assurance of good faith on the part of the producers."

Thomas declared, "if Hollywood will clean its house, the abuse which it heaped on our committee was worth the price." He said he felt the industry had "learned the first lesson which we all must learn, and that is that Communists have one and only one objective—the destruction of everything American. The movies are no exception."

Shapley of PCA Says "Purge" Spells Betrayal

For the Motion Picture Association "to yield to hysteria by establishing blacklists and purges would be a betrayal of the trust of the American people," Dr. Harlow Shapley, chairman of the Arts, Sciences and Professions Council of the Progressive Citizens of America, yesterday wired MPA.

M & P Circuit Changes to Nu-Screen

Following in the footsteps of better showmen everywhere, M&P have installed NU-SCREEN in their Metropolitan Theatre, Boston and Circle Theatre, Brighton, Mass.

To give your audience better vision, less distortion and a life-like dimensional picture, contact NU-SCREEN CORPORATION, 1501 Broadway, New York 18, New York.

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Lawyer Hails Edict In Jackson Pk. Suit

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Hailing the Jackson Park decree as one that will be beneficial to every independent exhibitor in the long run, Thomas McConnel, attorney for the plaintiff in the Jackson Park suit, today told a special meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois members here that two current advanced price films, [illegible]ever Amber" and "Unconquered," will be affected by the court order when it goes into effect next Monday.

This view has been disputed by a number of independent exhibitors locally.

'Agreement' an Exception

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Gentleman's Agreement" is an exception to the fixed price policy ban under an agreement with 20th-Fox assistant general sales manager William C. Gehring, McConnel disclosed, and reported that, according to Gehring, the company felt it was wrong in designating the film for advanced admissions. The sales executive, McConnel continued, said the company plans to change its policy on "Gentleman's Agreement."

McConnel said that any attempt by the Jackson Park case defendants to play day and date in more than one "Loop" house for the two-week limit would be met by new legal action. He also stated that the double-feature portion of the decree was specifically for the Jackson Park Theatre and that, while any theatre in the competition zone would automatically benefit, technically double features could be played immediately outside the zone. Theatres playing subsequent to the Jackson Park, he added, may play dual bills.

Holds RKO Theatres 'Bound'

Asserting that the New York anti-trust decree would not have any effect on the Jackson Park decision, McConnel pointed out that the former provides for local court determination of local situations and necessity. He also stated that the RKO theatres here, while not specifically mentioned in the decree, were bound by it just as were the defendants.

Despite mingled feelings and opinions among those attending today's meeting, McConnel was unanimously given a vote of thanks by the Allied group for his efforts.

Finkel Reelected

(*Continued from page* 1)

Panalos, Isreal Roth, William J. Walker and William R. Wheat III.

In the closed meeting, resolutions were voted upholding National Allied on its stand against increased admissions, and on the stand it took in the Ascap case.• On another vote the association placed its entire faith in the policies being followed by National Allied.

The affair was brought to a close with a banquet attended by 400.

Films Aid Grain Drive

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 25.—Dr. Herman E. Hilleboe, state health commissioner and chairman of the new State Food Commission, said here today that motion pictures, radio and newspapers would be used to enlist public participation in the food conservation grain saving program.

If you want a Treat, give it the "Treatment"!

We've told you about the astounding business "GOLDEN EARRINGS" is doing—how its latest dates are topping some of the most famous hits of this or any year.

Now we want to remind you that a prerequisite for this kind of showing is the special promotion treatment Paramount has devised for it and will apply upon request to any first-run situation that justifies it and that will extend the very simple but necessary cooperation it involves.

Talk to the Paramount salesman or special representative—or write us about this special proved plan. If you could see the figures—if you knew just what famous attractions "GOLDEN EARRINGS" is topping or matching—you wouldn't consider opening a major first-run engagement of this picture without this special campaign from

PARAMOUNT

And how that "Golden Earrings" song is helping! Already among "Billboard's" official top 30 radio tunes and high on their November 15 lists of the top 10 record and juke box Hits of Tomorrow. And Capitol Records headline their Peggy Lee recording as "A 14-kt. hit . . . getting bigger every day!"

RAY MILLAND · MARLENE DIETRICH in "GOLDEN EARRINGS" with MURVYN VYE · BRUCE LESTER REINHOLD SCHUNZEL · DENNIS HOEY · QUENTIN REYNOLDS · A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION PRODUCED BY HARRY TUGEND · DIRECTED BY MITCHELL LEISEN · SCREEN PLAY BY ABRAHAM POLONSKY, FRANK BUTLER AND HELEN DEUTSCH · FROM THE NOVEL BY YOLANDA FOLDES

"Captain from Castile"

(*Continued from page* 1)

as in the best traditions of outdoor action pictures, plays a somewhat subdued and minor role.

There is Barbara Lawrence, as the girl Power leaves behind in Spain when forced to flee the country after he and his family have been falsely accused of heresy and turned over to the Inquisition. And there is Jean Peters, the orphaned servant of an inn-keeper, who, befriended by Power, follows him to the New World and mothers his child. There is a suggestion in the picture, but no evidence, that they are married. In the novel itself, they were not married.

THE escape from the Inquisition and from Spain are done in effective dramatic sequences. With an adventurous companion, played by Lee J. Cobb, Power and the girl make their way to Cuba where they sign up for the Cortez expedition to Mexico. The expedition is endangered by the greed of the Spanish governor of Cuba who sends his own armada in an attempt to share in the plunder of the Aztecs. There are also lieutenants in the Cortez expedition who fancy the gold and jewels given Cortez by the Aztecs but not the all-out conquest upon which Cortez is bent. They escape with the treasure and, in still another effective action sequence, it is recovered by Power.

John Sutton, as the Inquisitor-General, responsible for the death of Power's sister, and since married to the girl Power left at home, appears in Mexico with the Cuban governor's rival expedition. He is murdered by an Aztec and Power, suspected of the crime, is court-martialled and sentenced to hang. A last-minute reprieve follows the native's confession and, restored to his command, Power marches with Cortez's legions on the capital of the Aztecs.

Power's performance is tailored to the role of the adventurous Spanish don. The principal supporting roles are ably filled in all instances, including Cesar Romero as Cortez; Antonio Moreno as Power's father; Thomas Gomez, as Cortez's army chaplain; Alan Mowbray as an army medicine man, and George Zucco as a Spanish don.

Presented by Darryl Zanuck, the picture was produced with a lavish and expert hand by Lamar Trotti, who also wrote the screen play. It is healthy fare for any box-office.

Running time, 140 minutes. General audience classification. Release, not set.

SHERWIN KANE

"Captain Boycott"

(*Individual Pictures-Universal-International*)

INCIDENTS surrounding the life of Captain Boycott, a man whose name has become part of the vocabulary of the world, provided the source of an exciting historical drama of Ireland in the 1880's. Made by a J. Arthur Rank affiliate with considerable story-telling skill, it is likely to win more enthusiastic friends for British product here. Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat have assembled some top-quality talent, the cast including Stewart Granger, Kathleen Ryan, Cecil Parker, Alastair Sim and Robert Donat in a brief characterization of Stuart Parnell.

Boycott, a wealthy, arrogant landowner in County Mayo, held his tenant farmers in little respect and less sympathy. Dictated largely by greed, demands on the farmers were tightened and evictions followed remorselessly. Similar conditions apparently existed in many parts of Ireland, with resentment of the people flaring into murderous violence at times. The narrative proceeds with mounting intensity, with interest lying not so much with Boycott, as with the incidental sketches of the people affected by him. In the finale, the power of passive resistance, or boycott, is discovered by the triumphant and confused villagers. Direction has done much to capture the honest flavor of a folk tale, permeated with sullen hostility, yet illumined with love and hopefulness.

It is a film in which social implications will be seen by many, but entertainment is always paramount. Granger makes a dashing and heroic leader of the farmers, with Miss Ryan providing a believable romantic angle. As the parish priest with a knowing twinkle in his eye, Sim offers an unforgettable vignette.

Launder also directed and wrote the screenplay with Wolfgang Wilhelm, from the novel by Philip Rooney.

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Set for January release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

FSC Opens Fourth Latin Branch Unit

Foreign Screen Corp. has opened its fourth Latin American branch, in Sanitago, Chile, with Jose Miguel Eguez as manager.

Carlos Jimenez, South American sales supervisor for Foreign Screen, left here last night for Buenos Aires, where he will make his headquarters. Meanwhile, Compania Mexicana de Peliculas, headed by Max Gomez, former RKO Radio manager in Mexico, has made an agreement with Foreign Screen to distribute its product in Mexico, it was announced yesterday by H. Alban-Mestanza, FSC head.

RKO Profits

(*Continued from page* 1)

including profit on the sale of capital assets which, after taxes and all other charges, was equivalent to approximately 46 cents per share on the 3,924,913 shares of common outstanding. This compares with a net of $3,082,553 for the third quarter of 1946, equivalent to approximately 80 cents per share on 3,839,600 shares outstanding.

Provision for contingencies and estimated loss on outside productions is listed at $1,077,738 for the 13 weeks ended Sept., 1947, and at $1,130,225 for the nine months. Last year, the nine-month total was $197,000, and the third quarter figure was $110,000.

Ricketson Boomed For Governorship

Denver, Nov. 25.—Frank H. (Rick) Ricketson, Jr., president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, is being talked of for not only one high political office, but two. One group is talking him up for the governorship of Colorado, while another wants him to run for U. S. Senator on the Republican ticket.

Alberta Pike, also of the same organization, as director of publicity for Fox Thetres in Denver, and a regent of the University of Colorado, is being talked up for the governorship on the Democratic ticket.

Philon to Name 11 in New Anti-Trust Suit

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Warner, Paramount, Columbia, Universal and Republic distributing companies are among 11 defendants in an anti-trust suit to be filed tomorrow in U. S. District Court by Seymour Simon in behalf of Louis B. Philon and his Liberty Theatre in Michigan, Ind. Also named as defendants, along with the Warner circuit, are: Dunelake Theatre Corp., Dunes Amusement Co., Lido Amusement Co., Uptown Theatre Corp., and James E. Coston.

Representing the second suit by Philon, tomorrow's complaint will charge the defendants with conspiracy to prevent the plaintiff from obtaining first runs necessary to the successful operation of the Liberty, and seeks relief that will permit him to bid on all available product in the area. No monetary damages will be sought at present. The earlier suit was dismissed without prejudice on a motion by plaintiff.

Short Subject

"Public Relations — This Means You!"

(*March of Time—20th-Fox*)

The field of public relations, which is sometimes the fine art of manufactured ballyhoo, is the subject of the latest March of Time. The picture tells how a public relations expert works and shows some of the top men in the public relations field. To demonstrate the effectiveness of the profession, the subject shows also how a consultant turns a ghost-town into a popular resort almost overnight. The subject will prove illuminating to many. Running time, 17 minutes.

Gatti Film Rights

(*Continued from page* 1)

ture to be made by the expedition will be formed with Mills as president; McConnell, producer, and Fliesler, vice-president. Distribution arrangements have not been set yet. Serial publication rights have been sold to a group of national magazines.

A showing of the $400,000 worth of expedition equipment was held by Commander Attilio Gatti at International Harvester's showrooms here yesterday. The expedition, which will require about a year, is Gatti's 11th into the interior of Africa, and his first since World War II. The latest in camera, lighting and sound equipment, as well as extensive modern radio equipment and power generating units, have been supplied the expedition.

Open Hollywood Office

Donahue and Coe, Inc., has opened a Hollywood office with Walter Blake, formerly of McCann-Erickson, as West Coast manager.

THESE SONGS ARE HILDEGARDE AT HER GREATEST! THIS IS THE LOVELY, ENCHANTING, MERCURIAL, INCOMPARABLE HILDEGARDE THRILLINGLY CAUGHT IN THE MOODS THAT HAVE MADE HER ONE OF THE SUPREME SHOWMEN OF OUR TIME! THIS IS A TIMELESS ALBUM OF SONGS THAT ARE OF TODAY . . . AND CERTAIN TO BE OF TOMORROW AS WELL! TRULY A COLLECTOR'S ITEM! TO BE RELEASED DECEMBER 15 . . . WATCH FOR IT! BY ALL MEANS, DON'T MISS IT!

Selections Include: MY BEL AMI—I WAS LUCKY—ONE LOOK AT YOU—I'LL BE SEEING YOU—ASK YOUR HEART—I'M GOING TO SEE YOU TODAY ● DECCA ALBUM No. A-541. ● A DECCA PERSONALITY SERIES ALBUM.

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 104

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1947

TEN CENTS

Warn Again of Impending New Taxation

Even More Time Must Be Given to Problems: MPA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Regional and national exhibitor organizations must begin immediately to give even more time and attention to the problem of local amusement taxes, because new taxation is potentially one of the greatest threats to high-level theatre business, according to an official of the Motion Picture Association, here.

Circuit heads, exhibitors and MPA leaders and others in many places have been warning owners of impending tax attacks for several weeks.

"When you add a local tax to the Federal tax," it was stated, "you have theatres paying almost as much in taxes as they pay to rent the pictures."

The official pointed out that a few years ago, Seattle was the only one of

(*Continued on page* 7)

Allied Board Meets Prior to Convention

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 27. — Board of directors of Allied States Association will hold a two-day meeting here, Saturday and Sunday, preliminary to the opening of Allied's national convention at the Hotel Schroeder next Monday.

Abram F. Myers, Allied chairman and general counsel, will preside at the board meeting, which is scheduled to prepare numerous subjects of business to be taken up by the convention.

Jack Kirsch, Allied president, will be in the chair during the convention

(*Continued on page* 7)

Texas Allied Seeks Rise in Film Supply

DALLAS, Nov. 27.—Charging that the current print shortage in the Dallas exchange area, coupled with a 33 1/3 per cent increase in the number of theatres locally has resulted in a burden "designed purposely as a direct squeeze against our members to give clearance to favored runs," Allied Theatre Owners of Texas has instructed its officers "to adopt all ex-

(*Continued on page* 7)

No 'Probe' by Columbia

Columbia, confident that none of the actors, writers, directors and producers which it has under contract are Communists, will make no attempt to inquire into the political leanings of its studio staff following the employment policy statement on Communists which Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston issued here last Tuesday on behalf of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood branch of the MPA.

This was stated here Wednesday by Nate Spingold, Columbia vice-president and general counsel, who said also that the company intends to await results of forthcoming House Un-American Activities Committee hearings before deciding to discharge or suspend without compensation any employe who might be considered

(*Continued on page* 4)

Test Chicago Rule's 'Reasonable Rental'

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—Warner Brothers' "Dark Passage" will be the "guinea-pig" under the Jackson Park decision with the picture opening at Warners' Capitol and Jeffrey Theatres and the Jackson Park day-and-date today.

Picture goes in on a straight 30 per cent basis with no fixed rental. It is hoped that box-office figures after the engagement will give some idea as to what can be construed as a "fair and reasonable rental," as expressed in the decree and for which there is no precedent. Distributors are concerned more than a little about

(*Continued on page* 4)

Dinner to Mark End Of Federation Drive

Scores of film leaders and heads of other branches of amusements will mark the end of the 1947 drive here of the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, at a dinner at the Hotel Astor on Dec. 11. Si Fabian heads the division, which will honor George Jessel at the dinner.

Marshall Plan Seen An Aid to Canada

OTTAWA, Nov. 27.—It is believed here that the statement by U. S. Secretary of State Marshall asking Congress for a $7,500,000,000 European recovery program may help Canada's own U. S. dollar problems. It is interpreted here as being a broad hint that the European aid program would allow U. S. purchases to be made in Canada, with this in turn alleviating the dollar shortage of the Canadian government as well as weakening the need for many possible import restrictions against American films and other goods or services on as wide a scale as generally contemplated to be in the making. The latter includes rumors of effects to be felt keenly in the film industry from such a possibility.

Observers in Ottawa believe that Marshall's remark that, "The economic effects of this program (Marshall Plan) will extend far beyond the boundaries of the 16 European countries involved," implies that dollar-short Canada will benefit from U. S. action in this respect and help the Canadian government to find a solution of its exchange problem, even if this means only a remedy and not a cure for the time being.

Tax Rules on Frozen Funds to Stay, Says US

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—There will definitely be no change in Internal Revenue Bureau rulings governing the application of U. S. income taxes to funds of American film companies frozen abroad, an official of the Bureau declared here today in disclosing that Internal Revenue has been looking into the frozen funds tax situation again.

Income of U. S. producer-distributors frozen abroad but used for investment there will remain taxable as income in the U. S., it was said.

Income of U. S. companies which is completely frozen and cannot be used for any purpose is also subject to U. S. income taxes, but not until it is freed, it was said.

The official admitted that top Treasury and Internal Revenue chiefs have been re-studying the tax situation on foreign income as a result of the British film tax and other recent overseas developments, but stated that "at present, there is nothing in the works that will change our earlier rulings."

Myers Hails Anti-Red Policy Stand

But Warns Johnston 'Other Steps' Needed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Allied States' general counsel Abram F. Myers, today congratulated Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston on the producers' New York anti-Communist stand, but reminded the MPA head that still other steps are needed to restore full public confidence in the industry.

Referring to an earlier statement that the time had come for MPA action to reassure the public that "from now on the Production Code

(*Continued on page* 4)

Los Angeles, Nov. 27.—Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, has commended Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association head, and the Association of Motion Picture Producers for the policy adopted in New York Tuesday on the employment of Communists in production.

Executives Act on 'Red' Program Aid

Taking immediate action to implement the industry's announced policy on employment of subversives, two executive groups representing the studios and the home offices, met here on Wednesday on the broad principles of the program, primarily on means of approaching Congress in an effort to give the movement legislative support.

The two committees reportedly also acted on a course to be pursued in enlisting the support of talent guilds on the Coast in enabling the studios to

(*Continued on page* 4)

Dmytryk and Scott Discharged by RKO

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—Producer Adrian Scott and director Edward Dmytryk, two of the 10 persons cited for contempt by the House Un-American Activities Committee, have been discharged by RKO Radio for

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

L. B. MAYER, M-G-M production chief, and HOWARD STRICKLING, studio publicity head, left New York Wednesday for the Coast, while E. J. MANNIX, studio executive, will leave here today.

•

JOHN M. WHITAKER, RKO Radio vice-president, will leave New York by plane on Sunday for the Coast. S. BARRET MCCORMICK, national director of advertising, will leave here today by train for Hollywood.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, Universal-International production executive, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

ADELE WHITELY FLETCHER has been named editor of *Photoplay*, and RUBY BOYD as managing editor by FRED R. SAMMIS, editorial director.

•

J. J. FELDER of Favorite Films is on a trip to Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco from New York.

•

LEONARD S. PICKER, Eagle-Lion producer, was a New York visitor this week before leaving for Rome.

•

LIGE BRIEN, Eagle Lion assistant exploitation manager, will return here Monday from Los Angeles.

•

JACQUES KOPFSTEIN, Astor Pictures executive vice-president, is on the Coast from New York.

•

WILLIAM GOETZ has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

A. A. WARD, Altec vice-president, has arrived here from Hollywood.

•

ARTHUR LAURENTS, scenarist, is in town from the Coast.

Another $55,000 for UK 'Bishop' Benefit

LONDON, Nov. 27.—A second benefit performance of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife" has brought another $55,000, netting a total of $175,000 for the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund.

Following the Command Performance, the film had its second and third showings in England yesterday. With the two prints scheduled to be shipped back to America today, the screenings will probably be the last in England until a solution of the tax situation is reached. They were permitted to enter free of the 75 per cent *ad valorem* duty, but cannot remain free of that duty for commercial exhibition.

The second showing was a request screening for British editors and commentators in London. The other was held in a Liverpool theatre under the auspices of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, which sponsored the Command Performance.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT will be remembered the statutory court in New York, sitting in the Government case, held price-fixing to be a violation of the law. This was the decision which created all of the original excitement over roadshows and successfully eliminated them at the time. Subsequently, the U. S. Supreme Court granted the stay which placed in suspended animation this ruling, along with others set forth by the lower court until the highest court decides.

The effect, of course, was that distributors thereafter felt enabled to proceed as if the New York judges had never handed down their findings. Roadshows, and advanced price attractions, went into their golden age. They're still in it.

■

The time is approaching rapidly now when the Supreme Court will begin consideration of the appeals from decisions of the district court. While no one can find sanctuary in predicting with assurance what the nine justices will determine, there are those who are prepared to accept without benefit of dispute that the original prohibition against price-fixing will be supported.

If this may be assumed as part of the pattern of the future, an interesting analysis of law then takes credible form, too. This analysis supports the belief that producers, distributors and any others concerned could face litigation by the Department of Justice for indulging in price-fixing during the period of the stay. And that might be a pretty mess.

Adherents of this line of thought, however, view the probability of such litigation as unlikely. Their point, principally, lodges in their opinion that it is possible.

■ ■

"In pursuing this policy [firing the 10 men cited for contempt and not knowingly hiring Communists] we are not going to be swayed by hysteria or intimidation from any source," stated Eric Johnston for the Association of Motion Picture Producers, and Donald Nelson for the SIMPP. "We are frank to recognize that such a policy involves dangers and risks. There is the danger of hurting innocent people. There is the risk of creating an atmosphere of fear. Creative work at its best cannot be carried on in an atmosphere of fear. We will guard against this danger, this risk, this fear.

"To this end, we will invite the Hollywood talent guilds to work with us to eliminate any subversives; to protect the innocent and to safeguard free speech and a free screen wherever threatened."

There is, consequently, every right to expect that these solemnly pledged safeguards will be applied with the diligence and the impartiality which the situation clearly demands; that the hysteria which is admitted as not improbable will be met with calmness and fair play if it arises. Worth repeating is the pivotal expression in the recent statement of the RKO board of directors: "Calling a man a Communist does not make him one."

It is a line to remember.

■ ■

Georgie Jessel, master-of-ceremonies at the recent Picture Pioneers dinner, which was one of the organization's best, told several stories in Yiddish. Turning to Johnston at one point, he remarked, "I'll explain them to you later."

One of Jessel's best was his fantastic yarn about Hollywood publicity buildups for young hopefuls. "They usually give them two swimming pools. One with water, and the other filled with sour cream. Then the servants walk around the sour cream pool throwing in vegetables."

■ ■

From Drew Pearson and his Washington Merry-Go-Round column: "Secretary of State Marshall, who ought to know something about Communist propaganda, disagrees with the House Un-American Activities Committee on propaganda in U. S. films, thinks Hollywood did a pretty good job."

■ ■

Spyros Skouras is one of a syndicate which has purchased the St. Louis Cardinals, also known as the *Red* Birds.

Listening, Mr. Thomas?

Gentleman's Agreement
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.
20th CENTURY-FOX

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
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Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
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SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

16th WEEK! SAMUEL GOL[illegible]N presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
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LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
'WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP'
IN PERSON
JACKIE GLEASON
BOB HOWARD
Extra!
BETTY REILLY
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GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
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ALAN LADD · DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON · LLOYD NOLAN
in "WILD HARVEST"
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In Person
THE KING COLE TRIO
CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA!
RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
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"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
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3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
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PEGGY ANN GARNER
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IN PERSON!
DAN DAILEY
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1943 .... YANKEE DOODLE DANDY

1944 .... This is the Army

1945 .... HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

1946 .... NIGHT AND DAY

1947 .... THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL

And NOW WARNERS' BIG MUSICAL DATE THAT STARTS '48!!

DENNIS MORGAN

"MY WILD IRISH ROSE"

Mcnificent! 16 songs and color by TECHNICOLOR

with
ARLENE DAHL · ANDREA KING · ALAN HALE · GEORGE TOBIAS · GEORGE O'BRIEN · BEN BLUE · SARA ALLGOOD

Directed by **DAVID BUTLER** Produced by **WILLIAM JACOBS**

Screen Play by Peter Milne • Based upon a Book by Rita Olcott • Musical Numbers Created and Directed by LeRoy Prinz • Musical Numbers Orchestrated and Conducted by Ray Heindorf

Hit Films' Use of 'Immoral' Novels

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Grave concern over problems arising from production of motion pictures based on "immoral" books was expressed in the annual report of the Bishop's Committee on Motion Pictures.

The report expressed the view that the purchase of such works for motion pictures encourages the writing and increases the sale of immoral literature, thus endangering moral standards of the American people.

The Bishops also noted an increase in motion pictures classified by the National Legion of Decency as objectionable in part, Class B, from 60 such films last year to 70 this year.

Legion Pledge Renewal On Dec. 7 and Dec. 14

The annual Legion of Decency pledge will be administered this year on Sunday, Dec. 14, at all Masses in Roman Catholic Churches in the U. S., except in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and possibly elsewhere, where the pledge will be read on Dec. 7—local autonomy prevailing on the selection of either date.

Legion Rates Sixteen Additional Pictures

Of 16 pictures newly reviewed by the National Legion of Decency, nine were placed in Class A-I and seven were rated A-II.

Classified A-I were: "Black Hills" and "Stage to Mesa," both Eagle-Lion; "The Chinese Ring," Monogram; "Dangerous Years," 20th-Fox; "The Exile," Universal-International; "The Last Round-Up" and "Six Gun Law," both Columbia; "My Wild Irish Rose," Warners, and "Road to Rio," Paramount. Rated A-II were: "Big Town After Dark," Paramount; "The Bishop's Wife" and "So Well Remembered," RKO Radio; "Blonde Savage," "Caravan" and "Whispering City," all Eagle-Lion, and "Murder in Reverse," Four Continents Pictures.

SAVES YOU MONEY!
Filmack's New
PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
COSTS ONLY $4.50 PER WEEK
Filmack 1327 S. Wabash Chicago

One of four Re-Releases by
Screencraft Pictures Inc.

Dmytryk and Scott

(*Continued from page 1*)

their refusal to answer the Congressional probers.

First of the companies to act on the policy formulated in New York Tuesday on the question of employing Communists, RKO told Scott and Dmytryk:

"By your actions, attitude, associations, public statements and general conduct before, at and since [the refusal to answer the House committee's queries], you have brought yourself into disrepute with a large section of the public, have offended the community, have prejudiced this corporation as your employer and the motion picture industry in general, have lessened your capacity fully to comply with your employment agreement, and have otherwise violated your employment agreement with us."

Independents Have Not Set 'Red' Stand

Although not committed to the anti-Communist stand taken by the Association of Motion Picture Producers in Hollywood, non-member companies are said to be in accord with the policy. However, members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and the directorate of that organization have yet to formally consider the subject. SIMPP president Donald M. Nelson joined with AMPP in its statement on the policy but it is understood neither the organization nor its members is committed to it yet.

Republic may join in the general industry movement, its vice-president, James R. Grainger, having participated in the meetings which drew up the program.

While policy has not been adopted yet by Eagle-Lion, it is established that production chief Bryan Foy would not have a "Red" in his employ, according to Aubrey Schenck, executive producer, who is here from the Coast.

Since United Artists engages only in distribution, no anti-Communist production policy is needed, company officials stated.

Myers Hails

(*Continued from page 1*)

will be administered so as to avoid a repetition of the "Amber" affair and that they may patronize theatres with full confidence that subversive propaganda will not be allowed to gain a foothold," Myers wired Johnston: "Congratulations on a good start. We hope you will follow through."

Myers said he was moved to send Johnston "this word of commendation because public dissatisfaction with the conduct of the production branch of the industry reacts against theatres." He added that he had no doubt that the Communist Party has for its main purpose the overthrow of the Government by illegal means, that this view is held by the great majority of Americans today, and that "their opinion must be respected."

Meanwhile, attorneys for the 10 witnesses cited for contempt in a brief conference with District Attorney George M. Fay urged him not to present the citations to the Grand Jury. Fay has indicated, however, that he believes the law obliges him to present the charges. He said he still hoped to have them ready for presentation on Monday.

Loew's Booking of 'Verdoux' Is Ended

"Monsieur Verdoux" will not be booked in any other Loew theatres, Oscar A. Doob, circuit executive, disdisclosed here Wednesday. The decision, Doob pointed out, was reached because of the poor box-office showing it had made, and not because of any organized pressure from Catholic War Veterans. The picture had already played in Loew's State here, and several out-of-town Loew houses.

Meanwhile, Paul L. Murphy, New York State department commander of the CWV, disclosed on Wednesday that he had sent a telegram to Joseph Vogel, general manager of Loew's Theatres, protesting the showing of the film. There had been other reports of protests from CWV posts throughout the city.

Paul Lazarus, Jr., director of advertising-publicity for United Artists, distributor of the film, reaffirmed an earlier statement of Gradwell L. Sears, UA president, that every effort would be made to get Loew's to change its mind about the film.

Col. Won't 'Probe'

(*Continued from page 1*)

subject to such action. He intimated that a Committee contempt citation against a Columbia studio employe for refusal to state whether or not he is a member of the Communist Party would move the company to suspend the employe.

Actor Larry Parks and producer Robert Rosson, both under contract to Columbia, were numbered among the 19 so-called "unfriendly witnesses" who attended but did not testify at the recent Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Washington, and they may or may not be called upon to testify at forthcoming hearings. Spingold said he believes neither is a Communist. None of the 10 whom the Committee has already cited for contempt are in Columbia's employ.

Spingold said he was glad to learn that one of the 19 "unfriendly witnesses," writer Howard Koch, had issued a sworn statement of non-affiliation with the Communist Party, and said he hoped the others would follow his example.

Executives Act

(*Continued from page 1*)

purge themselves of subversives and to protect those who are not.

Members of the studio group, headed by Louis B. Mayer, and including Joseph M. Schenck, Dore Schary and Walter Wanger were to have returned to Hollywood late Wednesday and yesterday. Barney Balaban is chairman of the New York committee, which includes James Mulvey, Spyros P. Skouras and Albert Warner.

Test Chicago Rule

(*Continued from page 1*)

this point and feel it can be answered only after experimentation.

No one wants to set a fixed rental at the moment for fear it might be interpreted in such a manner as to hold them in contempt of court. Admissions for this engagement will be 40 and 60 cents at the Jeffrey and Jackson Park and 50 and 75 cents at the Capitol.

News Briefs

IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh and the negotiating committee of projectionists Local No. 306 will meet again with representatives of affiliated circuits here next Tuesday to continue negotiations in their long-standing wage dispute.

Walsh is in San Antonio at present, and is due to return to New York on Monday.

Eagle-Lion Fetes 300 At 'Red Stallion' Party

Some 300 children of parents in almost all walks of life were guests Wednesday at an Eagle-Lion sponsored cake-milk-and-ice cream "cocktail part" at Cafe Society Uptown as a prelude to the New York premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Red Stallion" at the Gotham Theatre, here. Following the party, the youngsters were transported by cars to the theatre.

U-I Gets Mexico City 1st-Run Exclusively

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 27.—Exclusive all-year use of the Cine Chapultepec, 4,000-seater which has a class clientele, has been obtained by Universal-International, announces Vincent Palmeri, its local manager. Universal, he said, is the first American company to obtain exclusive, all-year use of a top first-run theatre here.

The Chapultepec, starting early in January, will screen only U-I pictures and those which it releases in Mexico, including the British films of J. Arthur Rank.

Technicolor Dividend

The board of Technicolor has declared a dividend of 50 cents per share, payable Dec. 19, to stockholders of record on Dec. 5.

Party for Reade Staff

Eighty employes of Walter Reade Theatres will gather Monday night, Dec. 8, at the Park Hotel, Plainfield, N. J., for their annual Christmas party. Walter Reade, Jr., will preside, with Julius Daniels, city manager in Perth Amboy, as master-of-ceremonies.

Foy Promotes Harbert

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—Ruth Harbert, story consultant at Eagle-Lion Studio, has been promoted to story editor by Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production, filling the vacancy caused by the advancement of David Stephenson to associate producer.

Liberty Registered in N. Y.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 27.—With Austin C. Keough signing a registered statement as vice-president, and Clinton Combes signing as incorporating attorney, Liberty Films, Inc., of Los Angeles, chartered under the laws of California, has certified to the Secretary of State to do business in New York, with offices in New York City. Capital stock is listed at $200,000.

AMPA Sets Christmas Party

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will hold its annual Christmas party on Dec. 18 at the Iceland Restaurant here. Robert Ungerfield is chairman of the luncheon committee, with Arnold Stoltz and Phil Williams assisting.

When "the dawn comes up like thunder"...

HE'S at his console—the re-recording mixer—weaving skeins of sound into the picture's pattern . . . skillfully matching sound to sight, mood for mood.

Under his sensitive control, dialogue and music and special effects are expertly proportioned, delicately balanced to round out the realism and drama of the scene.

To fulfill this essential contribution to the picture, the re-recording mixer requires creative understanding of the director's desires . . . a sense of the dramatic . . . a feeling for mood . . . and the high order of faithful sound reproduction and re-recording he gets from the large and versatile family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

116 INSTITUTIONS SERVICING MILLIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS WITHOUT REGARD TO RELIGION OR RACE **SAY...**

another chance to HELP!

... *not just another* ***CAMPAIGN!***

FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES OF NEW YORK

1947-48 CAMPAIGN $15,000,000

AMUSEMENT DIVISION *MUST* RAISE $325,000

Space contributed by MOTION PICTURE DAILY

S. H. FABIAN, chairman

Texas Allied

(Continued from page 1)

pedient means, both of negotiation and of legal action if necessary, to remove this burden unjustly and unsoundly applied upon us." The resolution, adopted at the 28th annual convention of Texas ATO, here, asserted that Dallas prints are 10 per cent less than the pre-war supply.

The convention also endorsed the stand taken by National Allied on advanced admission prices and the new rate schedule sought by Ascap.

Officers reelected by the two-day [illegible]on, include: H. A. Cole, presi[illegible]; Rubin Frels, C. D. Leon, B. R. McClendon, R. N. Smith and Mrs. Martha McSpadden, vice-presidents; A. W. Lilly, secretary-treasurer, and the following directors: Will Dorbandt, L. C. Tidball, Lee Bell, Henry Sparks, Phil Isley, Lonnie Legg, H. Ford Taylor and W. J. Cresher. Newly-elected were: P. V. Williams, vice-president, and R. J. Cordell and Walter Knoche, directors.

Sidney Samuelson, member of the executive committee of National Allied and general manager of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, told the convention that Allied's fight to break "unfair film monopolies" is nearing a successful completion. In 12 to 18 months, he predicted, more features will be available to unaffiliated theatre owners.

Allied Board Meets

(Continued from page 1)

sessions. Already scheduled for discussion are advanced admission price pictures, the Government's New York anti-trust suit, industry public relations, theatre music taxes by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Allied expansion plans and activities of the Allied Caravan, which exchanges information among exhibitors on sales policies and film buying terms.

The national convention, which will continue through Wednesday, is being billed as exclusively for *bona fide* independent exhibitors. Business sessions will be held in the afternoon only on each of the three days of the convention. On the social side, a nightclub party will be held Monday, National Screen Service will be host at a cocktail party on Tuesday, and the convention banquet will be held on Wednesday night. A special social program for wives of delegates also has been arranged.

Warn on Taxation

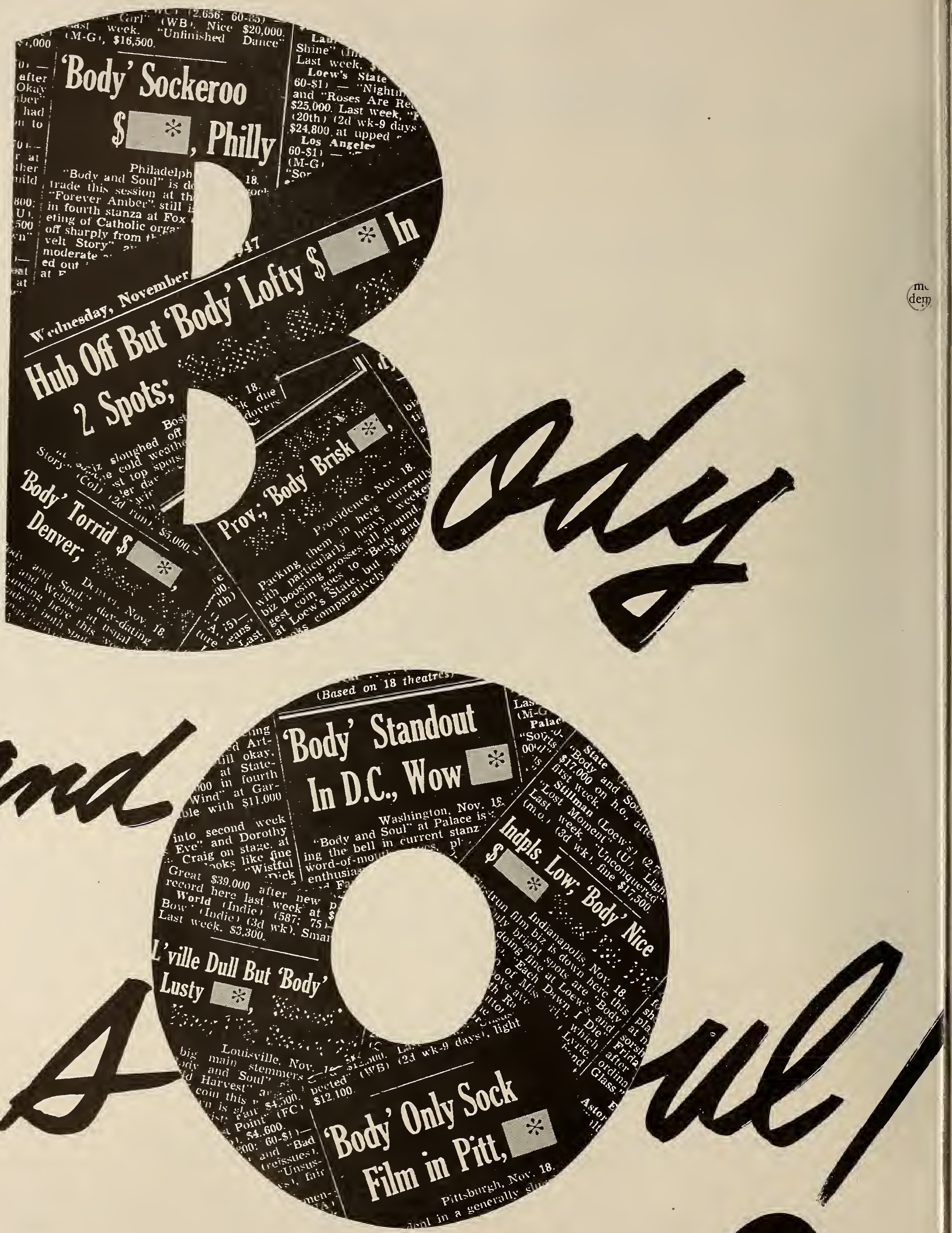
(Continued from page 1)

the top 37 cities to levy an amusement tax. Recently, however, Richmond, Norfolk, Philadelphia, Chicago and many other large cities have passed theatres taxes, and now Pittsburgh is planning a 10 per cent tax, while other local taxes are planned elsewhere.

"These taxes usually take local exhibitors by surprise," the MPA official said. "They usually don't know how to organize public opinion on their side against the tax. Their national and regional associations must be ready to give them trailers, advertisements, radio scripts, directions for lining up other business—a complete campaign all worked out in detail, with personnel trained to go to the threatened area and help." Herman Levy, general counsel of the Theatre Owners Association, recently stated that he and other TOA chiefs would travel into the field and help owners in areas threatened with new taxes.

RKO RADIO PICTURES Inc., TRADE SHOWINGS

	TYCOON TECHNICOLOR	WALT DISNEY'S BAMBI TECHNICOLOR
ALBANY Delaware Theatre, 290 Delaware Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
ATLANTA RKO Projection Room, 195 Luckie St., N.W.	Tues. 12/2 10:30 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 10:30 A.M.
BOSTON Uptown Theatre, 239 Huntington Ave.	Tues. 12/2 10:30 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 10:30 A.M.
BUFFALO Shea's Niagara, 426 Niagara St.	Tues. 12/2 2:45 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:45 P.M.
CHARLOTTE Plaza Theatre, 1610 Central Ave.	Tues. 12/9 10:30 A.M.	Thurs. 12/4 10:30 A.M.
CHICAGO Esquire Theatre, 58 East Oak St.	Tues. 12/9 10:15 A.M.	....
Surf Theatre, 1204 No. Dearborn St.	....	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
CINCINNATI Esquire Theatre, 320 Ludlow Ave.	Tues. 12/9 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
CLEVELAND Shaker Thea., Kinsman & Lee Rds., Shaker Hgts.	Tues. 12/9 2:00 P.M.	Thurs. 12/4 2:00 P.M.
DALLAS Paramount Projection Rm., 412 S. Harwood St.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
DENVER Esquire Theatre, 590 Downing St.	Tues. 12/2 3:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 3:00 P.M.
DES MOINES Uptown Theatre, 4115 University Ave.	Thurs. 12/4 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 10:30 A.M.
DETROIT Midtown Theatre, 711 W. Canfield St.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS Cinema Theatre, 213 East 16th St.	Tues. 12/2 1:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 1:30 P.M.
KANSAS CITY Kimo Theatre, 3319 Main St.	Tues. 12/2 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
LOS ANGELES Ambassador Theatre, Ambassador Hotel	Tues. 12/2 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
MEMPHIS Idlewild Theatre, 1819 Madison Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE Varsity Theatre, 1326 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS Granada Theatre, 3022 Hennepin Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
NEW HAVEN Whitney Theatre, 1220 Whitney Ave.	Tues. 12/2 10:30 A.M.	....
Strand Theatre, 1217 Dizwell Ave.	....	Wed. 12/3 10:30 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS Circle Theatre, St. Bernard & N. Galvez Ave.	Tues. 12/2 11:00 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 11:00 A.M.
NEW YORK Normandie Theatre, 53rd St. & Park Ave.	Tues. 12/2 10:30 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 10:30 A.M.
OKLAHOMA CITY Uptown Theatre, 1212 N. Hudson St.	Tues. 12/2 11:00 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 11:00 A.M.
OMAHA Admiral Theatre, 40th & Farham	Tues. 12/2 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA Uptown Theatre, Broad & Dauphin St.	Tues. 12/9 11:00 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 11:00 A.M.
PITTSBURGH RKO Proj. Rm., 1809-13 Blvd. of Allies	Tues. 12/2 2:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:00 P.M.
PORTLAND 21st Avenue Theatre, 616 N.W. 21st Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS West End Theatre, 4819 Delmar St.	Tues. 12/2 1:00 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 1:00 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY South East Theatre, 2121 South 11th St., E.	Tues. 12/2 2:15 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:15 P.M.
SAN FRANCISCO Alhambra Theatre, 2330 Polk St.	Tues. 12/2 1:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE Egyptian Theatre, 4543 University Way	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS Hollywood Theatre, 212 N. Phillips Ave.	Tues. 12/2 10:00 A.M.	Wed. 12/3 10:00 A.M.
WASHINGTON Fox Projection Rm., 932 New Jersey Ave.	Tues. 12/2 2:30 P.M.	Wed. 12/3 2:30 P.M.



'Body' Sockeroo $ *, Philly

Philadelphia, Nov. 18.
"Body and Soul" is d... trade this session at th... "Forever Amber" still i... in fourth stanza at Fox ...

Hub Off But 'Body' Lofty $ * In 2 Spots;

Wednesday, November ... 1947

'Body' Torrid $ *, Denver;

Denver, Nov. 18.
"Body and Soul," day-dating ... and Webber at usual ... here this ...

Prov.; 'Body' Brisk *,

Providence, Nov. 18.
Packing them in here currently with particularly heavy weekend biz boosting grosses all around. Biggest coin goes to "Body and Soul" at Loew's State, but ... comparatively ...

(Based on 18 theatres)

'Body' Standout In D.C., Wow *

Washington, Nov. 18.
"Body and Soul" at Palace is ... ing the bell in current stanza ... word-of-mouth ... enthusiasm ...

Indpls. Low; 'Body' Nice $ *

Indianapolis, Nov. 18.
... film biz is down here this ... only bright spots are "Body and Soul" ... doing fine at Loew's and ... "Each Dawn I Die" ...

L'ville Dull But 'Body' Lusty *,

Louisville, Nov. 18.
... big main stemmers ... "Body and Soul" ... "Harvest" ... coin this ...

'Body' Only Sock Film in Pitt, *

Pittsburgh, Nov. 18.
... in a generally slu...

* Sorry, we can't give you these beautiful figures from Variety (Nov. 19th)

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 105 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

Reagan Urges Longer Runs, Upped Scales

Bids for These to Offset Para. Losses Overseas

Charles M. Reagan

As a means of offsetting foreign market losses, Paramount distribution vice-president Charles M. Reagan on Friday called upon all exhibitors to "seek out new sources of revenue" by way of advanced admission prices, extended runs, better merchandising, and any other means. Similar proposals for the same economic reasons have been voiced by other major distributor executives.

"We do not expect American exhibitors to make up the loss themselves but we do expect

(*Continued on page* 4)

FCC's Para. Video Probe Starts Jan.5

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Federal Communications Commission has set Jan. 5 as the date for hearings to determine whether Paramount controls Allen B. DuMont laboratories and certain other subsidiaries.

At stake are applications of Paramount subsidiaries for five new television stations. These are DuMont's applications for stations at Cleveland and Cincinnati, New England Theatres' application for a Boston station,

(*Continued on page* 4)

October Tax Is Down $4,300,000

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—General admission tax collections in October, based on September box-office receipts, were more than $4.3 million below October, 1946 collections, the Bureau of Internal Revenue reports, this year's October figure being $37,743,023, compared with $42,096,591 for October, 1946.

The October figures continue the

(*Continued on page* 4)

Allied Holds to Anti-Ascap Plan

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 30.—No change in Allied States' program for answering proposed theatre music tax increases of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers with attempts to obtain restrictive legislation and Department of Justice action against the Society was made by Allied's board of directors during a two-day meeting concluded here today.

It had been reported earlier that some Allied factions were dissatisfied with the anti-Ascap program, believing that they will be subject to higher Ascap fees after next Feb. 1, inasmuch as there is little prospect of the Allied

(*Continued on page* 4)

Ring Lardner, Jr. Fired by 20th-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—While 20th Century-Fox announced that writer Ring Lardner, Jr., one of the 10 cited by Congress for contempt, has been notified that his employment with the company has been terminated, presidents of three talent guilds and studio production executives were in consultation Friday on the industry policy on subversives which was charted in New York. Louis B. Mayer and Walter Wanger briefed the union leaders.

In the announcement made by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, last Tuesday on behalf of

(*Continued on page* 4)

Complete MPF Field Set-Up This Week

This week will mark the completion of Motion Picture Foundation field organizational activity, when MPF headquarters here expects to announce the names of trustees elected to represent Indianapolis, Los Angeles and one or two other areas where operating machinery has not been fully established.

Additionally, MPF here will announce this week the names of the 10 trustees-at-large who will represent distributors at the national trustees meeting which has been set for next Monday and Tuesday at the Hotel Astor, here.

Los Angeles will elect a trustee today at a meeting to be held there by Variety Club of Southern California.

Newsreels, Video Not Competitors: Clofine

Just as news magazines cannot compete with newspapers in the swift presentation of news, and just as newspapers cannot compete with radio flash service in the same respect, so are the newsreels beyond competing with television news broadcasts, in the opinion of M. D. Clofine, managing editor of News of the Day, who assailed reports of the extent to which television is "showing up" newsreels on news coverage.

Canadian Equipment Ban Has a Relief Clause

Eady, Allport Will Resume This Week

London, Nov. 30.—Sir Wilfred Eady and F. W. Allport, representing the British Government and the American Motion Picture Association, respectively, will definitely resume their *ad valorem* tax impasse settlement talks immediately following the conclusion of the House of Commons budget debate this week, a British Treasury official states.

The official emphasized that there has been "nothing sinister" about the delays which have stalked the Eady-Allport talks.

OTTAWA, Nov. 30.—With motion picture equipment included in the list of imports banned by the Canadian government as a temporary measure to conserve U. S. dollars, officials of the Canadian government point out that there is a clause in the new regulations which allows intervention in cases where such bans provide "proven hardship."

Anticipating that the new import ban would work hardship and inequity at times, sufficient flexibility in individual cases is being allowed so that such cases can be dealt with on their merits.

The Minister of Finance is vested with the power to decree which cases are hardship ones or which involve unusual circumstances. Intended primarily to conserve U. S. dollars, the regulation is also applicable to other countries, including England.

Plan Freeing Blocked Funds With Exports

Buy Native Products, Sell Them for Dollars

Film companies here have under consideration the investment of blocked funds abroad in manufacturing or other projects in dollar-short countries with the manufactured products to be exported and paid for in dollars.

The plan provides for establishment of a corporation in France, for example, financed by blocked funds, operated as a separate entity, to engage in manufacturing. Any interested company could participate. One-third of the company's stockpile would be held in the home country for local consumption, and the balance would be exported to free currency markets.

While foreign governments have yet to be approached, its champions believe many would favor the plan since it would increase employment and provide a larger quantity of needed goods.

The plan has been taken up at sev-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Rodgers Will Open MGM Meeting Today

William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, will open the first of a four-day meeting tomorrow at the Astor Hotel here, the conference to be attended by territorial sales managers, their field assistants and a number of home office executives.

From the field will be John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, New York, and his assistant, Herman Ripps, Albany; John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, Pittsburgh, and Frank C. Hensler, Detroit; Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern, Chicago, and

(*Continued on page* 4)

See Softening Of U.K. Ad Tax Bill

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Representatives from the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, Kinematograph Renters Society and British Film Producers Association stated at the weekend they were "entirely happy" with the British Treasury's reception accorded the protest which the delegation has filed against legislation which would

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

NATE SPINGOLD, Columbia vice-president, left here for the Coast at the weekend.

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Janet Heymann of the M-G-M sales department here, and Ira Dulberger, projectionist at Warner's United States Theatre, Hoboken, N. J., were married in Brooklyn last week.

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M. L. Simons, assistant to M-G-M exhibitor relations director H. M. Richey, will return here today from Dallas.

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Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production chief, left here for Hollywood at the weekend.

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Jules Weill, Masterpiece Prod. president, is in Boston from New York.

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Harry Goldberg, Warner Theatres advertising-publicity director, left here yesterday for Cleveland.

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Carol Brandt, M-G-M Eastern story head, returned to New York from England over the weekend.

•

Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew treasurer, returned here over the weekend from the Coast.

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Sidney Franklin, M-G-M producer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

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Clyde R. Keith of Western Electric's Erpi division, is on the Coast from New York.

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Alfred Crown, foreign manager for Samuel Goldwyn Prod., has returned here from England.

•

Jack C. Alicoate, Eagle-Lion trade press contact, celebrates his 23rd birthday today.

•

Robert W. Coyne, Theatre Owners of America executive director, left here at the weekend for Artesia, N. M.

•

Harry G. Ballance, 20th Century-Fox Southern sales manager, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

•

Edward Muhl, Universal-International studio general manager, and Mrs. Muhl are parents of a son.

•

Robert Ulman, Century Theatres personnel director, and Mrs. Ulman are parents of a son.

•

E. Z. Walters, Altec comptroller, is in town from the Coast.

•

Two Join de Rochemont

Thomas Orchard and Lothar Wolff, veteran March of Time associate producers, have resigned to join Louis de Rochemont Associates as producers. They will supervise the 86 two-reel geographical series which de Rochemont is producing in 16mm. for United World.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

FIRST reaction to the industry's stand with respect to the 10 Hollywood men who have been cited by Congress for contempt and against the employment in Hollywood of known subversives has been divided for the most part strictly along conservative and liberal lines, as was to be expected.

The liberals, denouncing the action in both instances, see it for the most part as a surrender to the House Committee on Un-American Activities and, even, as a blow at Constitutional liberties, including freedom of speech and belief.

Conservative elements, holding to the belief that Communists are, *per se,* subversive and dedicated to the overthrow of the American form of government, approve the industry's stand and applaud it.

Neither view takes notice of the reasons given by Eric Johnston in his statement following last week's meetings for the stand taken by the industry.

•

Is the discharge, or suspension, of the 10 a capitulation to the Committee on Un-American Activities, as liberals contend, or is it, as Johnston stated, because their "actions have been a disservice to their employers and have impaired their usefulness to the industry?"

Johnston further stated that "We do not desire to prejudge their legal rights" (of the 10) and said that they may be re-employed if acquitted or purged of contempt and by declaring under oath that they are not Communists.

The present temper of the American public on the subject of Communism cannot be ignored by the industry. Rightly or wrongly, it has been evident since the Washington hearings by the Thomas committee that the 10 who refused to answer to the question whether or not they were Communists, came into immediate disrepute with a vast segment of the American public. The contempt citations by Congress solidified that opinion.

At the hearings, the organized industry made every effort possible to disassociate itself and its views from the so-called "unfriendly" witnesses and their views. Despite that, the public saw them only as Hollywood employes in strategic, well-paid positions. The public mind is not a court of law. It is swayed by impression more than by theory. When the 10 refused to state whether or not they were Communists, they convicted themselves before a large part of the public, which no doubt would have been impressed far more favorably either by an unequivocal denial or a courageous affirmation than by a debate on personal rights which, most unfortunately, have been rendered suspect in the public mind by Communist tactics over a long period.

•

The responsible leaders of the industry, on the basis of Johnston's statement, did what they did not in obeisance to the Thomas committee, not in disregard of the rights of individuals, nor in the spirit of holding a man guilty until he is proved innocent, but in recognition of the responsibility of the industry to the public.

Johnston had urged that the same or similar action be taken last spring. It was not taken then because of legal uncertainties.

The action was taken last week because at the Washington hearings, in the opinion of the industry heads, the 10, by their actions, did a disservice to their employers and impaired their usefulness to the industry.

Therefore, it is apparent that the policy adopted is viewed solely as an employer-employe relationship by those who espoused it.

When the disservice has been rectified, and it can be, and when the impairment of the usefulness of the 10 has been corrected to the point at which the worker once again is worth his hire, then the industry stands ready to re-employ him.

That much is evident in Johnston's statement.

•

On the subject of refusal to employ a known Communist, the top executives of the major companies and studios quite obviously have taken in a great deal of territory.

No other large industry has announced such a policy publicly.

The industry leaders themselves appeared to stand a little in awe of what they had done.

They called upon Congress to enact legislation to assist them in carrying out their policy.

Newsreel Parade

THE industry's purge of Communists is a highlight of all current newsreels. Also given prominent coverage is the crisis in France. Football, fashions, and other items round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 27—New French premier and cabinet fight strike crisis. Grasshoppers plague Australia, [illegible]na buildings demolished. Largest pla[illegible] world in test flight. Film executives [illegible]ge Hollywood of Communists. Twentieth Century-Fox studio employes get Victory Medal for war services. Football. Girl wrestlers.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 225.—Communist strikes paralyze France. U.S. film industry ousts Communists. Largest land-plane tested. Gen. Meyers stripped of honors. "New Look" in beach modes.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 29.—Crisis in France. Film industry announces Communist ban. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 95.—Biggest land-plane flown. Film industry purges Reds. Cleanup in Vienna. Expedition in Georgia swampland. Skiing in vogue.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 30.—Largest land-plane. Eric Johnston announces Communist ban. Crisis in France. Roosters ready for show. Gen Meyers probe. Vienna war ruins blasted.

Mexico Showmen Hit 'Forced' Showings

Mexico City, Nov. 30.—Strong exhibitor opposition is rising here to a campaign that would make compulsory the exhibition of Mexican product for a minimum of 26 weeks a year. They plan to petition President Miguel Aleman to reject all demands for such a law, asserting that they would be driven out of business if they were compelled to devote half their screen time to Mexican product.

The exhibitors contend that few Mexican pictures attract a large attendance, and point out that Mexican producers must make better pictures to meet the increasing competition from Hollywood and England.

Canada Film Imports Show Sharp Increase

Ottawa, Nov. 30. — Canadian imports of films rose to $282,000 in September, compared with $185,000 for the same month last year, according to the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Imports in the first nine months of 1947 totaled $2,119,000, against $1,896,000 for the same period of 1946.

Lawson Promotes Tyers

Toronto, Nov. 30.—J. Earl Lawson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, has appointed Wannie Tyers as manager of Toronto's new $2,000,000 showcase, the Odeon, which will open in the spring. Tyers is now manager of the Capitol in Niagara Falls for Odeon.

20th Century Gets 4th

Ottawa, Nov. 30.—Twentieth Century Theatres, already operating the Elgin, Imperial and Rideau, here, have acquired a long term lease of the Victoria from Donat Paquin and has named Frank Paul as manager.

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News Briefs . . .

INDUSTRY labor relations consultant Pat Casey will be called upon to decide the question of retroactivity which has deadlocked negotiations on a wage increase for Eastern short subject cameramen, Walter Lang, business representative of cameramen's Local No. 644 (IATSE), reported at thc weekend. Although the union and representatives of 20th Century-Fox, RKO Pathe and Universal have agreed on a $35-per-week increase over the present $165, the local has insisted that the increase be made retroactive to last July 1, while the companies are holding out for the increase to become effective on Jan. 1.

Casey is due here from the Coast either this week or early next.

20th's Shorts Production 6 Months Ahead of Schedule

Production of 20th Century-Fox short subjects is six months ahead of schedule, with producers Edmund Reek of Movietone and Paul Terry of Terrytoon already having completed half of the 1948 product, it was announced at the weekend by Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager.

Exhibitor is Cleared of Charges on Percentages

KEY WEST, Fla., Nov. 30.—Gonzalo Bezanilla of the Palace Theatre was exonerated of alleged fraud on percentage playings in an opinion-order from United States District Judge John W. Holland. He was cleared of charges made by Columbia and Universal.

Bezanilla was required to pay a small sum to the plaintiffs on five pictures shown in Key West during 1944. They were involved on accounting proven unintentional.

'Housewarming' to Open E-L's New Dallas Office Today

DALLAS, Nov. 30.—Herman Beiersdorf, Eagle-Lion district manager, and Clair Hilgers, Dallas branch manager, will be hosts to theatre, trade press and newspaper representatives at a reception tomorrow at the opening of the company's new Dallas office. Following the reception, the guests will attend a screening of "rushes" of the company's forthcoming "Mickey," which is still before cameras on the Coast.

Kendall to Entertain Legion

Messmore Kendall, president of the Capitol Theatre, and commander of the New York chapter of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U. S., will entertain 125 members of the organization at the Capitol this evening, following a meeting in Kendall's apartment atop the theatre. A supper for the group will follow the meeting.

Fourth 'Polio' Film Ready

"In Daily Battle," fourth in a series produced by RKO Pathe for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, is to be released this week through the Foundation's local U. S. chapters.

Skouras Reelected Barker

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 30.—Charles Skouras has been reelccted for the sixth time as chief barker of Tent No. 25, Variety Club of South California.

J. ARTHUR RANK'S British and Dominions Films, controlling Denham and Pinewood studios, London, had a profit increase of 69,789 pounds ($279,156) for the past six months on a profit total of 172,665 pounds ($690,660) for the period. Previous six months' profit was 102,876 pounds ($411,504). Profits for the last six months, however, include the full year's figures for various B. and D. subsidiaries.

Final dividend on common stock is three-and-a-quarter per cent, making a total of six-and-a-quarter for the last six months, against seven-and-a-half for the previous 12 months.

F-P Canadian and Loew of Canada Declare Dividends

OTTAWA, Nov. 30.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share, at the rate of $1 pcr annum, payable Dec. 27 to shareholders of record on Dec. 12.

Marcus Loew Theatres has declared a dividend of $1 per share payable Dec. 31, to shareholders of record on Dec. 10.

To Handle Academy Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—Edgar Peterson, executive assistant to RKO Radio production vice-president Dore Schary, has been named to supervise production on the first of the projected series of industry films to be made under the auspices of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Express Agency Asks For Second Increase

Washington, Nov. 30.—Railway Express Agency on Friday asked the Interstate Commerce Commission for authority to increase its rates another 10 per cent. It said recent wage increases to its employees made the increase necessary.

In September, the ICC granted the agency a substantial rate increase, over the protests of the motion picture industry and other large express users.

Production Drops To 34 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—The production level dipped to 34 at the weekend with shooting starting on three new pictures, and eight others going to cutting rooms. Total compares with 39 one week ago.

Shooting started on "The Iron Curtain," 20th Century-Fox; "The Tenderfoot," Allied Artists; "Death on thc Downbeat," Monogram.

Shooting was finished on "Blazing Across the Pecos," Columbia; "Angel's Alley" and "Charlie Chan in New Orleans," Monogram; "The Sainted Sisters," "The Long Gray Line" and "Waterfront at Midnight" (Pine-Thomas), Paramount; "All My Sons," Universal-International, and "To the Victor," Warners.

14 Will Plan FJP Luncheon Here

A committee of 14, headed by Max A. Cohen, has been named by Si Fabian, chairman of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies' amusement division, to formulate plans for a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here, which will officially terminate the entertainment busincss FJP campaign in the New York metropolitan area. The amusement division is pledged to raise $325,000 as its share of a national total of $15,000,000.

Others on the committee are: Joseph R. Vogel, William J. German, Abe Schneider, Robert M. Weitman, David Weinstock, Benjamin Sherman, Emil Friedlander, Max Wolff, Emanuel Sacks, Sam Shain, William Klein, Jerry A. Danzig and Herman Schleier. The luncheon will be in the form of a testimonial to actor-producer Georgc Jessel, as previously stated.

Union to Testify at U. S. Labor Hearing

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Representatives of Local 174 of the American Federation of Labor Office Employes International Union, representing West Coast office and clerical employes of the motion picture industry, are scheduled to testify at Labor Department hearings on revising the present "white collar" exemptions under the Wage and Hour Law. They will be heard Jan. 9. The hearings, which cover all industries and businesses, open Tuesday.

RecreationSpending Off Slightly, Says US

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—U. S. consumers are spending a very slightly smaller portion of their expenditure dollar on recreation this year than they did in 1946, Commerce Department figures show. Admissions, including those for films, account for the major portion of recreation expenditures.

Whereas in 1946 and the first quarter of 1947, 2.3 cents of every dollar went for recreation, only 2.2 cents of every dollar was spent on recreation during the second and third quarters of this year.

Officials were quick to point out that the number of dollars spent on recreation has undoubtedly increased —it's just that it hasn't increased as much as the number of dollars spent for other things. Sharply rising prices in other categories undoubtedly account for the percentage shrinkage in the recreation category, they admit.

October Tax Down

(*Continued from page 1*)

pattern of the last six months, during which 1947 monthly totals were alternately sharply ahead or far behind the comparable 1946 figures.

General admission tax collections do not include receipts from taxes on cabarets and roof gardens, leases of boxes and seats, brokers' overcharges, and admissions sold by proprietors in excess of established prices. The October figures for all of these taxes, including the general admission collections, shows a drop of more than $5,500,000 from $48,597,428 in October, 1946 to $43,058,427 for October of this year.

U. K. Ad Tax Bill

(*Continued from page 1*)

make 50 per cent of advertising expenditures subject to tax. At present advertising expenditures are entirely tax exempt.

The delegation said that Treasury Financial Secretary Glenvil Hall told the group that, although he could not announce at once the government's decision with regard to amending the bill, a brief is being prepared for use in Tuesday's debate by a member of Parliament friendly toward softening the bill. It is expected, it was added, that Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps will announce considerable amelioration of the bill's provisions insofar as the British film industry is concerned.

MGM Meeting Today

(*Continued from page 1*)

Ralph W. Maw, Minneapolis; Rudy Berger, Southern, Washington, and John S. Allen, Dallas; George A. Hickey, Western, and Sam Gardner, San Francisco.

From the home office will be Edward M. Saunders, Edwin W. Aaron, Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker, H. M. Richey, Charles D. O'Brien, Joel Bezahler, Jay Eisenberg, M. L. Simons, and others.

WB Club Party Dec. 20

Warner Club's annual Christmas kiddie party will be held at the New York Warner Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 20. All will receive gifts from the club.

Reviews

"Shadow Valley"

(*Eagle-Lion*)

SINGING cowboy Eddie Dean, comedian Roscoe Ates, pretty Jennifer Holt and menacing George Chesebro combine their talents to serve up another standard Western with customary emphasis on gun-battling and equestrian action.

Arthur Sherman's scenario has Dean and Ates in the roles of incognito police officers who are sent to a Frontier settlement to find a train robber. Their attention, however, is diverted to a local murder engineered by an ostensibly respectable lawyer, Chesebro, who has his henchman kill Miss Holt's rancher-uncle so the way will be clear for him to swindle the gal out of the inherited estate. It doesn't take Dean long to uncover Chesebro's motive, and when the murderer-swindler is brought to justice Dean has succeeded in killing two birds with one stone, for Chesebro was the train robber. Jerry Thomas produced and Ray Taylor directed.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Furia"

(*Westport-International*)

FURY, the English translation of "Furia," is the word for this new Italian film, which examines a theme far different than those so beautifully treated in the Italian "Open City" and "Shoe Shine." "Furia" depicts the passions of a triangle in a film marked by sensitive performances and accurate Italian rural settings. But "Furia" does not have the strength and power of either "Open City" or "Shoe Shine."

The story describes the love affair between Isa Pola, wife of a wealthy peasant, Gino Gervi, and Rossano Brazzi, head groom for Gervi. Their affair is almost discovered by Gervi one night, but Gervi's daughter by another marriage, Adriana Benetti, warns the couple and her father believes his groom has been conducting an affair with the daughter. Brazzi and Miss Benetti undergo a forced marriage, but Miss Pola still pursues her former lover. Gervi learns of his wife's infidelity, but is killed in an accident. Brazzi, meanwhile, tries to resist Miss Pola, while a moronic stableman, secretly in love with Miss Pola, learns of the affair and strangles Miss Pola. After Brazzi is acquitted on charge of murder, the picture ends with the reconciliation of Miss Benetti and Brazzi. Geoffredo Alessandrini was director and author of the screenplay. Herman Weinberg did a competent job of handling the English titles.

Running time, 89 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Para. Video Probe

(*Continued from page 1*)

a Dallas station for Interstate Circuit, and a Detroit station for United Detroit Theatres.

The Commission had earlier ruled that Paramount must withdraw these applications or divest itself of the subsidiaries on the ground that no one company may control more than five video stations, that through control of Dumont, Balaban and Katz Corp., and Television Productions, Paramount already has the maximum. DuMont already has licenses or construction permits for stations in Washington, New York and Pittsburgh; Balaban and Katz a license for a Chicago station, and Television Productions a Los Angeles construction permit.

After two extensions of the time within which Paramount had to comply with the Commission order, the company asked the FCC to reconsider its verdict on the ground that it does not control DuMont. The FCC then finally agreed to hold a hearing going into the entire matter.

On Jan. 5, the Commission will hear, in addition to representatives of Paramount and the other subsidiary corporations, representatives of various companies competing with Paramount for television channels in the five cities.

Plan Freeing

(*Continued from page 1*)

eral recent meetings of foreign department heads and with other executives and, although still in an early stage, it is viewed by many to be a possible solution to at least part of the global money problems affecting the industry.

Reagan Urges

(*Continued from page 1*)

their cooperation," Reagan declared, adding there is no intention of raising rentals. While production and distribution have their own obligations in the way of alleviating world market set-backs, it is ultimately up to theatremen here to counter-balance the loss sustained abroad, he maintained. Paramount will have 26 features in 1947-'48, Reagan said. This is the same number released last season.

As for business conditions here, Reagan holds that a good picture can draw income equal to the 1946 level but he emphasized it must be "properly merchandised."

Paramount's policy on "Unconquered," he said, is to play the film in 300 to 350 theatres (including affiliated houses) at advanced admission scales and following each engagement a period of time would elapse before the picture is released at regular rates.

Paramount is "continually" reducing clearances with no adverse reaction, he reported.

Radio Revenue Up

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—An average increase of eight per cent in gross revenues of all types of broadcasting stations for 1947 over 1946 is reported by the National Association of Broadcasters. The survey, based on a sample of NAB members, also showed an average increase of nine per cent in operating costs.

6 Video Applications

HARTFORD, Nov. 30.—The FCC reports there are now seven applications for television licenses in the Hartford and Waterbury areas.

Allied Holds

(*Continued from page 1*)

program showing any results prior to that time.

The vanguard of an estimated 200 to 250 delegates who will attend Allied's national convention, opening at the Hotel Schroeder here tomorrow, began arriving this weekend. The convention will continue through Wednesday, with the Ascap rate increase and opposition to it prominent on the agenda. Advanced admission price [illegible]ictures, the pending Supreme Cou[illegible]peals in the Government's New York industry anti-trust suit, public relations, product and the Allied Caravan are among other subjects which will come before the convention.

William L. Ainsworth, president of the ITPA of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, the host organization, is convention chairman. Charles Trampe of the local organization is general chairman, and Harry Perlewitz handled convention reservations.

Ring Lardner, Jr.

(*Continued from page 1*)

the Association of Motion Picture Producers, provision was made for an "invitation" to studio talent guilds to work with management for elimination of subversives in the employ of producers and to aid in safeguarding innocent employes from injury in carrying out the dismissal policy.

With the Screen Writers Guild already committed to oppose blacklisting under a resolution adopted by the membership two weeks ago, the SWG met at the weekend in special session to decide on a course of action. The Screen Actors and Directors guilds, on the other hand, had announced no plans for immediate meetings on the subject.

Red-Probe Editorials Are Cited by MPA

A 58-page brochure listing some 255 "representative editorials from the press of the nation" relating to the recent House Un-American Activities Committee hearings which were held in Washington has been published by the Motion Picture Association for distribution to executives of MPA member companies.

The compilation presents actual reproductions of a large number of the editorials. Newspapers in all sections of the country are represented.

No compilation of comment unfavorable to the industry is contained in the brochure.

Hit Czech Films as 'Red'

Appropriation of $6,320,000 for Czechoslovakia's film industry has been approved by a parliamentary committee of that nation's legislature, in spite of attacks by some deputies that the nationalized film industry is completely dominated by the Communists, according to press dispatches reaching here from Prague.

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Frozen Fund Relief In Mundt Bill

U. S. Information Aid May Benefit Industry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Rep. Karl Mundt today told Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston that his bill to authorize the State Department's Overseas Information Service might provide some help to the film industry in getting frozen funds out of Europe.

At a luncheon-meeting, during which Johnston outlined the industry's plight abroad, Mundt pointed out that under his bill, which passed the House and is now pending in the Senate, the State Department could take steps to persuade foreign governments to allow the industry to convert its film rental income.

The bill specifically provides, he said, that the Department use private agencies of information where possible.

Mundt told the MPA president that the industry has made a lot of friends on Capitol Hill by dismissing the Hollywood witnesses cited for contempt.

Cagney Quits UA to Make 2 for Warners

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Cagney Productions will cancel its distribution contract with United Artists to make two features for release by Warners with the latter to participate in financing and share in the profits. Deal was concluded here at the weekend

(*Continued on page 2*)

ATOI Considers a 'Steamship Meeting'

Indianapolis, Dec. 1.—Maurice Rubin, independent exhibitor of Michigan City, has been commissioned by executives of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana to study the possibilities of a "steamship convention" for ATOI's 1948 summer meeting. Under consideration is the chartering of a Great Lakes steamer for three days, cruising from Michigan City and visiting Mackinac Island and Harbor Springs, Mich., for golf or sightseeing.

Ten Named MPF Trustees

Five distribution company presidents and five vice-presidents will serve as trustees-at-large with the Motion Picture Foundation, it was announced here yesterday by Barney Balaban, acting chairman of the Foundation's coordinating committee.

Balaban, Paramount president, is himself one of the trustees-at-large. Other presidents who will serve, with initial participation as trustees to be marked with attendance at the board of trustees meeting at the Hotel Astor, here, next Monday and Tuesday, are: Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal; Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists, and Arthur B. Krim, Eagle-Lion. Vice-presidents are: Albert Warner, Warner Brothers; Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio; Leopold Friedman, Loew's; Jack Cohn, Columbia; Walter Titus, Jr., Republic.

Because MPF's by-laws provide for exactly 10 trustees to represent distributors, Monogram was not invited to name a trustee, according to a Foundation spokesman, who yesterday was unable to explain why the company excluded was Monogram.

Odeon Is Planning Theatre Television

TORONTO, Dec. 1.—Prospective installation of television facilities in leading Odeon theatres in Canada, including a number of new units, were discussed at a conference between A. G. D. West of London, England, and officials of Canadian Broadcasting. The latter, a Crown company sponsored by the government, controls all departments of television developments as a public utility including the granting of licenses. As yet no licenses have been issued.

West, a former president of the British Cinematograph Society, represents the television branch of the J. Arthur Rank Organization and has been in Canada for some weeks.

Paramount Partners In Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—A three-day conference of Paramount executives and theatre partners and circuit representatives to discuss theatre and advertising problems and campaigns for new pictures, will start at the Blackstone Hotel here tomorrow.

The conference, called by John Bal-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Schine Brief Filed; One of the Bulkiest

Washington, Dec. 1.—One of the bulkiest briefs in U. S. Supreme Court history was filed here today by Schine Chain Theatres, Inc. It took the chain 230 single-spaced book-size printed pages to say why it thought the lower court decision against it in the Government's anti-trust suit should be reversed.

Argument in both the Schine and Griffith cases is set for Dec. 15 or 16, depending on how fast argument proceeds in earlier cases.

SIMPP Would File As Amicus Curiae

The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has appealed directly to the U. S. Supreme Court for leave to file a brief as *amicus curiae* in the appeals to be heard next month from the New York court decree in the government's industry anti-trust suit.

The action was taken when defendants in the anti-trust suit refused SIMPP their permission to file the brief. The Department of Justice had given SIMPP its permission but authorization by both sides are required by law.

The brief which the Society seeks leave to file urges divestiture of all affiliated theatres and their sale on the open market as an essential remedy and it asks an exemption for independent producers from the distribution restrictions imposed upon the defendants, particularly the ban on price-fixing which prohibits advanced admission price policies.

Col., Others Seek Jackson Pk. Relief

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—Columbia and possibly other non-defendant distributors are studying possible courses of action to obtain court relief from provisions of the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust suit decree which, they contend, unjustly restricts their operations in this territory.

The non-defendant distributors feel that they should not be prohibited from playing their pictures more than two weeks in the Loop, inasmuch as they were not parties to the suit. Under consideration is a move to ask the court to construe the decree so as to grant non-defendants exemptions to this and other parts of the decree.

Allied Weighs Action on Ascap Fee Rise

Convention Also Hits Advanced Price Films

By DIRK COURTENAY

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 1. — Onslaughts against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for its proposed schedule of fees, coupled with repeated pleas for united resistance by exhibitors, today sparked the opening session at the Hotel Shroeder here of Allied States' national convention. In the face of predictions that Ascap, if confronted by defiance, would back down and invite bargaining, the Allied board took under advisement a proposal for assessment of members for any Ascap suits.

Upon a motion by Sidney Samuelson, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, the convention also ratified the advanced admissions policy adopted by Michigan

(*Continued on page 2*)

NCA, MGM, 20th in Price Policy 'Truce'

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 1.—There will be "peace for awhile" between North Central Allied on the one hand and M-G-M and 20th-Fox on the other in connection with price policies, Ben Berger, NCA president, declared here following his return from New York

(*Continued on page 2*)

Wehrenberg Lauds Action on 'Reds'

St. Louis, Dec. 1.—The action against Hollywood talent cited by Congress for contempt, taken by Hollywood producers under the leadership of Eric Johnston, president of the MPA, "has the warm support and approval of American exhibitors" Johnston was told in a telegram sent by Fred Wehrenberg, board chairman of the TOA.

"We know that an injury to any part of the industry is the concern of theatre owners whose business is to deal directly with the public and it is most susceptible to public opinion," Wehrenberg said in part.

3-Day Altec Meet Opens in New York

Called here from all parts of the country for the 10th anniversary observation of Altec Service, district and branch managers yesterday sat down to the first of a three-day series of conferences in which company policy is to be shaped for the coming year. The meetings are being held at the Park Central Hotel.

Conferees were welcomed by G. L. Carrington, Altec president, the regional managers were called into session by H. M. Bessey, vice president, who reviewed the conference agenda. A review of the record of the managers in securing new business was presented by E. O. Wilschke, operations supervisor.

Rodgers Presides at MGM Meeting Today

M-G-M's four-day sales conference opens here today at the Astor Hotel with William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, presiding. All phases of sales and branch operations will be gone into.

In addition to territorial sales heads and field assistants, five home office asistants to field heads will also attend, including Joel Bezahler, assistant to George A. Hickey, Western sales manager, Los Angeles; Charles F. Deesen, assistant to John J. Maloney, Pittsburgh; Leonard Hirsch, assistant to Rudy Berger, Southern sales head, Washington; Paul J. Richrath, assistant to John P. Byrne, Eastern, New York. Individual sessions between territorial heads and Edward M. Saunders and Edwin W. Aaron, assistant sales managers, and Jay Eisenberg, liaison between sales and legal departments, will be held on Friday.

Johnston to Accept Award for Schary

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1. — Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston will act as proxy Thursday night for RKO Radio vice-president Dore Schary, and accept for Schary the award of the Golden Slipper Square Club for humanitarianism. Schary has been called back to the Coast, and since the award is to be made in Philadelphia, he asked Johnston to stand in for him. The club, a Masonic organization, cited Schary for his "efforts to combat bigotry and intolerance through motion pictures."

Price Policy 'Truce'

(*Continued from page* 1)

where he engaged in conferences with both companies' sales heads.

Berger said that talks he had with M-G-M's William F. Rodgers and 20th's Andy Smith, Jr., resulted in "straightening out" some disagreements on price policy. "It is not Utopia, yet, however," he added.

It is understood, meanwhile, that all disagreements between 20th-Fox and Theatre Associates, buying combine in this territory, have now been cleared up. The company and the combine have been at odds for a year over price policy.

Personal Mention

DAVID O. SELZNICK arrived in town yesterday from Hollywood.

•

RUDOLPH WEISS, Warner real estate department head, will be in Washington today and is due back here tomorrow.

•

DORE SCHARY, RKO executive producer, returned to Hollywood over the weekend from New York.

•

LEON SIRITZKY of Siritzky International Corp. here, became an American citizen yesterday.

•

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio publicity director, is due back here today from the Coast.

MRS. SPYROS P. SKOURAS, wife of the 20th Century-Fox president, yesterday was reported in "improved" condition at St. Luke's Hospital, here, where she has been confined with pneumonia.

•

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, has left New York on a mid-western trip.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International Eastern division sales head, is in Washington from New York.

•

EMERSON YORKE, producer, has returned to New York from a New England trip.

Allied Spurns

(*Continued from page* 1)

Allied at their state convention in October. His own organization, Samuelson said, will file damage suits against distributors demanding advanced admissions in defiance of the New York Federal Court decree.

The proposal for the Ascap assessment was promulgated by Mrs. Ethel Miles, Ohio exhibitor, and endorsed by H. A. Cole, Texas ATO president, who also added that Allied would support Ben Berger of Minneapolis. Berger had declared earlier that he hasn't paid Ascap fees on his 10 theatres for several years and would fight the licensing society alone, if necessary, and advised exhibitors to let Ascap sue where it may. Nat Yamins urged that exhibitors refuse to sign contracts with Ascap at the expiration of the extension period and suggested adoption of a resolution against signing contracts before or after the Feb. 1 deadline.

Asserting that the public has a stake in the advanced admissions problem, John Wolfberg attacked Theatre Owners of America as an organization "to preserve a monopoly that Allied will ultimately succeed in destroying."

Jack Kirsch, Allied States president, told the meeting that Allied of Illinois will demand that "Unconquered," currently being shown at advanced prices, play the Jackson Park Theatre at regular prices in compliance with the recent court decree there and warned that roadshow pictures will bring "roadshow labor problems."

Cagney Quits UA

(*Continued from page* 1)

by Jack L. Warner and William and James Cagney.

Cagney's recently completed adaptation of William Saroyan's "The Time of Your Life" will be released through UA, probably in February, under terms of the contract now cancelled.

The Cagney company will continue to operate on an autonomous basis at General Service Studios. Plans are to make "The Stray Lamb," from a Thorne Smith novel, and "A Lion Is in the Streets," by Adrian Locke Langley, for Warner distribution. Cagney owns screen rights to both.

Lubitsch, 55, Dies Of Heart Attack

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Ernst Lubitsch, 55, German-born producer-director, who became a legendary figure of the American film industry, died here yesterday at his home in nearby Bel Air. Death was attributed to a heart attack. Lubitsch had been under medical care for a heart condition in recent years.

Born in Berlin, where he entered the acting profession, Lubitsch came to Hollywood in 1922 to direct Mary Pickford in "Rosita," followed by a succession of Lubitsch films for many major companies.

In 1943 he became a 20th-Fox producer-director, and at the time of his death was working on "This Is the Moment," starring Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. During 1935-36 he was general production manager for Paramount. His latest 20th-Fox films included "Dragonwyck" and "Cluny Brown." Survivors include a daughter, Nicola.

Paramount Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

aban of Balaban and Katz, will devote Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to discussions of theatre and advertising problems. Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning will be devoted to discussions of new releases. "Dream Girl," "I Walk Alone" and "The Big Clock" will be screened.

Those from the New York office attending the conference will include Leonard Goldenson, Charles M. Reagan, Edward L. Hyman, Robert M. Weitman, Leo D. Netter, Paul Raibourn, Curtis Mitchell, Ben Washer, Stanley Shuford and Sid Mesibov.

To Meet on 'Red' Policy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Boards of the Screen Writers, Actors and Directors guilds will meet with producers Wednesday night at the M-G-M studio for a review of all developments since formulation of the producers' anti-subversive policy in New York. The SWG and SDG boards met separately tonight on all phases of the matter.

Schanberger Services

BALTIMORE, Dec. 1. — Funeral services were held here today for Frederick C. Schanberger, 75, veteran theatre manager, who died here Thanksgiving Day at Bon Secours Hospital. He had been connected with the Maryland and Auditorium theatres some years ago, but at the time of his death was a partner with his son, J. Lawrence Schanberger, in Keith's.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Spencer TRACY • Lana TURNER • Zachary SCOTT
in M-G-M's
"CASS TIMBERLANE"
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

16th WEEK!
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
'WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP'
IN PERSON
JACKIE GLEASON
BOB HOWARD
Extra!
BETTY REILLY
Plus OTHERS

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM • JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
with KIRK DOUGLAS • RHONDA FLEMING • RICHARD WEBB

ALAN LADD • DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON • LLOYD NOLAN
in "WILD HARVEST"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
THE KING COLE TRIO
CONNIE HAINES
EXTRA!
RANDY BROOKS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

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COMPARE-
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COMPARE!

Yes...**COMPARE** the *patron drawing power* ...of eye-and-ear-filling **TRAILERS**...and colorful **ACCESSORIES**...with your *other* advertising media...**COMPARE**...the *low cost* of The **PRIZE BABY'S** seat-selling salesmen...with the cost of selling...through *other* channels!...Dollar-for-Dollar...Patron-for-Patron...**TRAILERS** and **ACCESSORIES** do a *Bigger* job...a *Better* job for **LESS** money!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Paramount's Holiday Release

BING
CROSBY
BOB
HOPE
DOROTHY
LAMOUR
in

"ROAD TO RIO"

with
GALE SONDERGAARD
FRANK FAYLEN
THE WIERE BROTHERS
and
THE **ANDREWS SISTERS**

Produced by DANIEL DARE
Directed by NORMAN Z. McLEOD
Original Story and Screenplay by
Edmund Beloin and Jack Rose
New Songs—Lyrics by Johnny Burke
Music by James Van Heusen

The same high note throughout
the trade
Hails "The greatest 'Road' show
ever made"!

"Far and away the best of the 'Road' pictures."
Says M. P. Daily

"Ranks far above the first four 'Road' pictures."
Says M. P. Herald

"Boxoffice winner in Paramount's 'Road' series."
Says Variety

"The Trio gathers its bumper crop of laughs."
Says Boxoffice

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 107 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

Agree to Hold Excess Income To Aid Canada

Distributors There Back Help in Nation's Crisis

TORONTO, Dec. 2. — Major film companies affiliated with the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada have agreed in principle to retention of excess revenue from film rentals in the Dominion to help bolster the Canadian dollar situation. The plan was revealed here following an association meeting at which the presiding officer was Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Canadian Paramount.

Various proposals have been submitted to home office executives in line with a hint from Ottawa that a share of film revenue should be retained in this country. The alternative is believed to be a quota system of imports of both positive and negative films for which Reconstruction Minister C. D. Howe has been given the necessary authority under austerity regulations.

Canada Exhibitors Form National Unit

TORONTO, Dec. 2.—Convoked to organize a campaign for abolition of the Dominion government's 20 per cent wartime tax on theatre grosses, 30 delegates representing exhibitor organizations of all provinces except Prince Edward Island concluded a two-day session here today by voting to form a National Theatres Association, and to create organization and publicity committees.

Preliminary discussion featured addresses by chairman Morris Stein; J. Earl Lawson, president of Canadian Odeon and J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players-Canadian.

New Lesser Firm to Represent Producers

Formation of Producers Representatives, Inc., of New York and Hollywood, and a London affiliate, Producers Representatives International, to represent independents in distribution both here and abroad was announced here yesterday by Irving Lesser, president of both companies. "Particular attention" will be given to the foreign field, said a statement from Lesser, who is an industry vet-

(*Continued on page* 4)

N. Y. 1st-Run Income Gains

Nine openings and a fairly important weekend following the holiday combined to improve business to some extent at New York first-runs. The overall income still is short of being too impressive, however.

The Strand returned "Jezebel" and "Anthony Adverse" with fair results, the week's gross being estimated at $38,000. "Thunder in the Valley" with a stage show headed by Dan Dailey figures to give the Roxy a mediocre $65,000. "Love from a Stranger" is close to average at the Victoria with $14,500 seen for the first week. First week of "Red Stallion" should bring about $17,500 at the Globe. "Out of the Past" had a healthy beginning with $25,000 in view for a first week at the Palace.

"Christmas Eve" is good for about $16,000 in its debut at the Broadway. The Rialto's switch to foreign prod-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Laud W. F. Rodgers On 'Dolphin' Scale

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 2.—Hailing William F. Rodgers, M-G-M distribution vice-president, as "one of the most progressive sales managers in the industry," the board of directors of Utah Theatre Owners Association today voted to send him a letter in which they laud his action in making "Green Dolphin Street" a regular admission price picture. The board also voted to advise sales managers of other companies of its condemnation of roadshow advanced prices.

Copies of the latter letter will be sent to all Utah exhibitors for use in a public relations program.

Bezahler Is Named Rodgers' Assistant

Joel Bezahler has been promoted to assistant by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M distribution vice-president. The promotion was made known yesterday shortly after Rodgers opened the first of a four-day sales conference of territorial sales managers and field assistants at the Hotel Astor, here.

Bezahler entered the industry in 1921, when he joined Louis B. Mayer Productions. When that company was merged with Metro-Goldwyn, he continued in sales as assistant to Edwin W. Aaròn, then head of contracts, as Aaron moved up in sales.

Bogart Denies He Is a Communist

Humphrey Bogart yesterday issued a statement in which he denied he is a Communist or a Communist sympathizer. He stated he has never been identified with any group "which was even sympathetic to Communism."

Bogart said his trip to Washington to offer moral support to the so-called "unfriendly witnesses" at the Congressional committee hearing on Communism in Hollywood was "ill-advised, even foolish," although "at the time it seemed the thing to do."

Warners Will Hold 2-Day Meeting Here

A two-day sales meeting of Warner district managers will be held here tomorrow and Friday at the company's home office, Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, announces. Other home office executives attending will be Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian division manager; Roy Haines, Western manager; Norman Ayers, Southern; and Ed Hinchy, Mike Dolid and Bernard Goodman.

District managers attending will include Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern district; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Rich, Central; Harry Seed, Midwest; Hall Walsh, Prairie; John Kirby, Southeast; Doak Roberts, Southwest; Henry Herbel, West Coast, and Haskell Masters, Canada.

Trumbo and Cole Are Suspended by MGM

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—M-G-M tonight notified screenwriters Dalton Trumbo and Lester Cole, two of the 10 persons cited for contempt of Congress, that their contracts have been suspended in accordance with the policy formulated by the Association of Motion Picture Producers in New York last week.

Meanwhile, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, reported on the anti-subversive platform mapped in the New York meetings to the SIMPP executive committee, and in a letter to member-producers informing them of SIMPP's commitment to the policy reportedly declared that responsibility for execution of the policy rests with each studio and producer.

Exhibitors Are United Against Bidding: Myers

Allied Convention Told U. S. Victory Likely

By DIRK COURTENAY

Abram F. Myers

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 2. — National exhibitor unity has been achieved on one subject at least, Abram F. Myers, Allied States chairman and general counsel, indicated today in his address to the organization's national convention at the Hotel Schroeder here.

Myers said that all exhibitor groups seeking to participate in the U. S. Supreme Court hearings next month on appeals from the New York statutory court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit are together in support-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Salesmen's Union, Distributors Clash

The question of whether branch sales managers are qualified for membership in the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen, and whether the Colosseum should be permitted to bargain on a company-wide basis, highlighted testimony presented here yesterday at a hearing before National Labor Relations Board officer Robert Silagi.

Principal witness was C. J. (Pat) Scollard, Paramount's labor relations director, whose testimony relating to

(*Continued on page* 4)

22 Studio Unions Form Labor Council

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—The complex studio labor set-up long dominated by IATSE and the Conference of Studio Unions as the largest, tightly-knit groups, took on added complexity today with the formation of a Hollywood American Federation of

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

A. SCHNEIDER, Columbia vice-president and treasurer, and Leo Jaffe, assistant treasurer, are en route to the Coast from here.

•

Herman Levy, Theatre Owners of America general counsel, has been invited to sit as a judge in the Barristers' Union Moot Court of the Yale University Law School, New Haven, on Dec. 11.

•

W. J. Turnbull, National Theatre Supply sales promotion manager and John S. Goshorn, seating department manager, are in Milwaukee from New York attending the Allied States convention.

•

May Ann Cohn, daughter of Columbia's New York division manager Nat Cohn and Mrs. Cohn, was married in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., over the weekend to Daniel J. Markell.

•

Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor relations director, is in Milwaukee from New York to attend the Allied States convention.

•

Marie A. Raftery, daughter of Edward C. Raftery, has become engaged to Matthew L. Coneys of Forest Hills, N. Y.

•

Charles D. Prutzman, Universal-International vice-president and general counsel, will leave New York today for the Coast.

•

Milt Hoffman of the Paramount home office advertising department, and Mrs. Hoffman have become parents of a son.

•

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave here today for Dallas.

•

Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, will leave here Saturday for Florida.

•

Morris Goodman, president of Discina International Film Corp., has returned to New York from Paris.

•

Paul McNamara, David O. Selznick advertising-publicity chief, is in New York from the Coast.

•

James M. Brennan, Warner Theatres executive, and Mrs. Brennan are parents of a son.

•

Louis Astor, Columbia circuit sales executive, is in Milwaukee from New York.

A. W. Kelly to London

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, left here last night for England by plane to confer with J. Arthur Rank on phases of the proposed sale of Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp. to Odeon Theatres, Ltd. UA owns 50 per cent of the Odeon stock.

News Briefs

GAUMONT-BRITISH in London yesterday reported profits of 557,673 pounds ($2,330,692), for the year ended March 31, 1947, compared to 469,509 pounds ($1,978,036) in 1946. Final ordinary dividend of 7½ per cent was declared, bringing the total for the year to 12½ per cent, the same as in 1946.

World Distribution Set by UA for Argentine Film

United Artists will distribute the Argentine film, "Consider the Lilies of the Field," throughout the world, Manuel Pena Rodrigues, producer of the film, who is here from Buenos Aires, declared at UA's home office yesterday. The deal also calls for the delivery of four other films, as previously stated.

Rodrigues said Argentina is stepping up production and that some 60 features are expected to be made next year. Rodrigues is now building a new studio near La Plata. On dollar remittance difficulties, he expressed confidence that some agreement would be reached soon.

MPA Board Meets Here Today

Regular quarterly meeting of the Motion Picture Association is to be held here today with president Eric A. Johnston presiding.

Bamberger to Speak

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will speak at the annual convention of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma at the Skirven Tower Hotel, Oklahoma City, Dec. 8-9.

Marcus Loew Theatres Profit

Toronto, Dec. 2.—Annual report of Marcus Loew Theatres, Toronto, shows a net profit of $98,338 for the 12 months ended Aug. 28, compared with $92,093 in the preceding period. Dividends of $22,886 on preferred shares and $30,000 on common were paid in the fiscal year, and surplus stood at $220,104.

Clark to Technicolor Board

John R. Clark, Jr., of Technicolor, has been elected a director of the company.

382 Theatres in Milwaukee Area

Washington, Dec. 2. — There are 382 theatres with a total capacity of 247,119 in operation in the Milwaukee territory, according to the latest theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association is releasing today.

Tenth in the series of 31 directories, the new one discloses that 86 theatres, with a capacity of 90,342, are in the areas's three largest cities: Milwaukee, Madison and Racine.

Twenty-nine per cent of the theatres (111) are located in 108 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. They account for a total capacity of 35,687, or an average of 322 seats per theatre.

Altec Album Tells Company History

Altec Service Corp. has had recorded a 10th anniversary celebration program for an album of five records which uniquely presents a narrative of the company's relation to the continuing evolution of sound in exhibition in the past decade.

The album, attractively bound in simulated red leather, has its title piece and the names of each of several hundred recipients stamped on the cover in gold lettering. Copies have been sent to persons in the film business, trade press, sound-projection, labor, equipment and to each Altec employee.

The album was produced in Hollywood under the personal supervision of Altec president George Carrington. Vincent Pelletier narrated Altec's history and Harlow Wilcox was master-of-ceremonies.

Other phases of the five-part program reproduce messages of congratulation and other pertinent matters from Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America; Bette Davis; Y. Frank Freeman, chairman of both the Motion Picture Producers Association and the Motion Picture Research Council; Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president; Louis Marlowe, senior member of the Screen Directors Guild; Jack Kirsch, Allied States president; Jean Hersholt, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Bob Hope, and a message from Carrington to all Altec employes.

The album will be played publicly for the first time this evening at a 10th anniversary dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, and again at a luncheon at the Essex House on Friday.

Clearance Appeal

Following a Boston motion picture arbitrator's dismissal of the clearance complaint of Elmwood Amusement in Jamestown, Mass., against distributors, Elmwood has filed an appeal with the appeal board of the American Arbitration Association here.

Contempt Action Due

Washington, Dec. 2.—District Attorney George Fay said today that the Congressional contempt citations of 10 film industry personnel will go to the grand jury later this week.

Newsreel Parade

THE Palestine partition and pictures of the Royal honeymooners highlight current newsreels. Other items include Hollywood stars in a London Command Performance, Samuel Goldwyn being honored for his war efforts, and various football games. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 28—UN votes to divide Palestine into an Arab and Jewish state. President Truman visits Freedom Train. Carl Gray made head of the Veterans Administration. Samuel Goldwyn honored for his war efforts. Jessie Donaldson becomes U. S. Postmaster General. Robert Hannegan buys St. Louis baseball club. Royal newlyweds. Tyrone Power ends his air tour. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 226 — UN votes independent Jewish state in Palestine. Big Four meet in London. Ferryboat put to torch in San Francisco Bay. Wine tasters meet. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 30—Palestine partitioned. Hail Freedom Train. American film stars in London Command Performance. Royal honeymoon scenes. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 96—Army beats Navy at Philadelphia. Hollywood Christmas parade. Philadelphia toyland. President Truman visits Freedom Train. Scenes of Royal honeymooners. Command Performance of Hollywood stars in London.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 31—Royal honeymooners. Greek border war. Macy's holiday parade. Big Four meet to plan peace. Football.

Ernst Lubitsch Rites To Be Held Tomorrow

Hollywood, Dec. 2.—Funeral services for Ernst Lubitsch, 55, German-born producer-director, who died Sunday at his home in nearby Bel Air, will be held at the Church of the Recessional, Forest Lawn, at 10:30 A.M. Thursday.

Lubitsch was working on "This Is the Moment," starring Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., for 20th Century-Fox at the time of his death.

Leewood Succeeds Cartwright at SPG

Hollywood, Dec. 2.—Jack Leewood has been promoted from advertising head to director of advertising and publicity for Screen Guild Productions, succeeding Jack Cartwright, who has resigned to enter the public relations field independently, it was announced by John Jones, Screen Guild president.

Grosses Go Higher With Devonshire
DAVID NIVEN—ANNABELLA—PAUL LUKAS
"DINNER AT THE RITZ"
SUSPENSE—ACTION—MURDER
Your Devonshire Man In Dallas Is
Harold Schwartz

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street Boston, Mass.

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M·G·MEMOS

P.S. NEW YEARS IS YOUR "GOOD NEWS" DAY!

Myers at Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing the appeal of the so-called Little Three producing and distributing companies from the part of the decree which imposes competitive buying upon the industry.

The three companies, Columbia, United Artists and Universal, are appealing almost exclusively on that issue, Myers said, in reviewing the government suit. The Big Five, on the other hand, he said, are appealing primarily in an effort to retain their theatres, while the government's appeal is aimed at divesting them of the theatres.

Sees Ruling in Spring

Myers said a decision might be expected from the Supreme Court some time in March or April. Indications point to a ruling in the government's favor, Myers believes. He cited the Jackson Park Theatre decree and the deletion of a passage in U. S. vs. National Lead Co. as indications of the way the wind blows.

The Jackson Park decree, Myers said, indicated that the Supreme Court felt that all points covered in the case would be covered by the government's New York suit and that it was needless to take the time to hear it.

In the second case cited, the court deleted the passage preventing an order for complete divestiture.

Myers told the convention that Allied now is preparing a brief as *amicus curiae* which it hopes the Supreme Court will accept. The brief will go "all out" in support of the government's attempt to obtain complete theatre divestiture of the five major defendants and describes "the burdens and disadvantages" which the competitive buying system will place on the independent, Myers said.

Extolling the Jackson Park decision, Jack Kirsch, Allied States president, asserted that if a situation could be broken up in a city the size of Chicago by concerted action, then it could be successful in other situations.

Asks $100,000 for Campaign

In an attack on what he termed the object of producer-distributors to put the independent exhibitor out of business, Benjamin Berger, president of North Central Allied, Minneapolis, proposed that Allied raise $100,000 for a public relations campaign against alleged domination of the industry by producers and distributors. He offered to start the fund with a $1,000 contribution.

Voicing his support of Berger's proposal, the Allied States president called for a show of hands by the more than 300 in attendance if they would be willing to contribute $300 to such a fund. Fewer than 25 responded.

Kirsch announced that a special board meeting would be held tonight to discuss a fund-raising campaign to support whatever activities the directors see fit to undertake.

New Lesser Firm

(*Continued from page* 1)

eran whose most recent post was that of manager of the Roxy Theatre here.

Treasurer is Seymour Poe, formerly with United Artists, and now Eastern representative for Sol Lesser Productions. David E. Griffiths, formerly managing director of Warners in England, will be London vice-president.

Theatre Janitors Set To Strike in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—A strike by 200 janitors which would affect 84 theatres here, is scheduled to start at midnight tomorrow, the American Federation of Labor Theatres and Amusement Janitors Local No. 9 announced today. While theatre owners would not comment, a spokesman for the theatrical federation said other union members would disregard the janitors' picket line because they have not obtained authorization for the strike from the labor council or the theatrical federation. The janitors' contract expired on Sept. 1. At issue is the local's demand for a reduction in the work-week to 40 hours from the current 48, with maintenance of the $63 weekly wages.

22 Studio Unions

(*Continued from page* 1)

Labor Film Council of the California State Theatrical Federation by 22 AFL studio unions and guilds. Roy Brewer, IATSE international representative here for the past three years, is chairman.

The council was organized, it was explained, "to improve the economic condition and advance the interests of members of unions in the council through mutual cooperation and joint action in matters affecting organized labor in the studios." In addition to 13 IATSE locals, the council includes the American Federation of Musicians, Screen Actors Guild, Screen Extras Guild, as well as teamsters, electrical workers, plasterers, culinary workers and laborers locals.

Colosseum

(*Continued from page* 1)

Paramount's sales operations was described by the distributors' joint counsel, Howard Lichtenstein, as applicable to other companies.

If the distributors succeed in convincing the NLRB, which is expected to hand down a decision in Washington in about a month based on the testimony submitted yesterday and scheduled to be submitted tomorrow, that a company-wide bargaining basis is inadvisable, they will compel the Colosseum to break up into some 360 individual voting units.

Scollard testified that branch sales managers serve in supervisory capacities, it being Lichtenstein's apparent intention to prove that the managers are not qualified for inclusion in the union. However, A. W. Van Dyck, Colosseum president, who is 20th-Fox's branch sales manager in Chicago, testified under questioning by David Beznor, Colosseum attorney, that his is not a supervisory post.

Frank P. Greenberg, National Screen's attorney, asked that NSS salesmen be excluded from membership in the union on the ground that NSS is an "advertising" company and not a motion picture distributor. Beznor opposed the motion, and tomorrow George F. Dembow, NSS vice-president in charge of sales, will appear as a witness to substantiate Greenberg's contention.

Beznor yesterday claimed that the Colosseum has a membership of about 85 per cent of 1,000-odd film salesmen and branch sales managers in the country, the remaining 15 per cent applying principally to New York and New Haven territories which the union has not yet organized.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

uct proved a huge success, according to Arthur Mayer, operator of the house. He claims "Panic" did $13,000 in its first four days, breaking all records there. "Nicholas Nickleby" is another record-breaker, it is claimed, with $10,000 indicated for a first week at the Little Carnegie. "Bush Christmas" had a sluggish opening at the Park with $6,000 apparent for the first week. Other estimates follow:

"Cass Timberlane" with a stage show at the Music Hall, in a fourth week, $123,000; "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, third, $66,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, fourth, $45,000; "Mourning Becomes Electra," Golden, second, $15,000; "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 16th week, $24,500; "Life with Father," Warner, 16th, $14,000.

"Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, seventh, $25,000; "Her Husband's Affairs" with Frank Sinatra on stage, Capitol, third, $79,000; "Wild Harvest" with King Cole Trio, Randy Brooks' orchestra and others on stage, at the Paramount, third week, $60,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, eighth, $30,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 15th, $8,500; "Lost Moment," Winter Garden, second, $17,000.

Cut 'Burning Cross'

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 2. — "The Burning Cross," anti-Ku Klux Klan feature released by Screen Guild, has been approved for showings in Ohio after the elimination of what Dr. Clyde Hissong, chief censor, called "nauseating and brutal scenes." The board had placed a temporary ban on the film.

"WALK"
WILL START TALK
about its explosive
romance
"Once you use that gun, you'll have a gun in your hand the rest of your life —and that's not for me . . ."
Hal Wallis'
"I WALK ALONE"
It's Paramount

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VOL. 62. NO. 108 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1947 TEN CENTS

Allied Board Votes Legal Test of Ascap

Dependent on Members' Cash, Ascap's Approval

By **DIRK COURTENAY**

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 3.—A plan by which Allied States members are called upon to finance a legal test of the theatre-taxing powers of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers was approved here by the organization's board of directors at the national convention which was concluded today.

The program, to be submitted through regional units, asks each exhibitor member desiring to participate to pay to an Allied committee, yet to be designated, a sum equal to one year's dues to Ascap at whatever rate is in effect at the time of payment. The committee will propose to Ascap that in consideration for an agreement not to sue or otherwise molest the subscribing exhibitors for refusing to sign contracts this money will be placed in escrow with the understanding that if by the end of the year there has not been a final decision on Ascap's status under the existing law,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Steps on Appeal Mapped Tomorrow

Attorneys for defendant distributors in the Government's New York anti-trust case have tentatively set a meeting for tomorrow on an assortment of steps preliminary to the actual presentation of their arguments before the U. S. Supreme Court on Jan. 12. On the agenda is consideration of a request by Government prosecutor Robert Wright to exchange briefs on Dec. 15, seven days before

(*Continued on page* 5)

New Pre-Releasing Plan for Goldwyn

Samuel Goldwyn Productions will introduce a new system of pre-releasing product, to a large extent as a promotional device, with "The Bishop's Wife" to open in five key city spots accompanied by a graduating build-up campaign to hit its high point at the half-way mark of the pre-release engagements at which time the picture will be released nationally.

The company, of which James Mul-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Walsh Wins '306' Raise

IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh, acting in behalf of projectionists' Local No. 306, here, has elicited from local affiliated circuits, an agreement to meet, on a dollar-and-cents basis, the 15 per cent wage increase granted recently by local independent circuits.

The independents' contract calls for a straight 15 per cent raise, but since the wage scale for affiliated circuit projectionists is considerably higher, the latter will receive increases of larger amounts than the independents' projectionists.

Local 306's negotiating committee has taken the affiliateds' concession under advisement. Walsh is expected to meet with affiliated representatives soon again on other points at issue in the current contract negotiations.

Says Hollywood's Patriotism Is Secure

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Rep. Chet Holifield of California today declared that as long as men like the Warner brothers, Louis B. Mayer, Darryl Zanuck, Dore Schary and Eric Johnston head the motion picture industry, "we need never fear that Hollywood ever will be un-American."

In remarks inserted in the *Congressional Record,* entitled "Hollywood's Record of Patriotism," Holifield, who was one of the handful of Congressmen who voted against the Un-American Activities Committee contempt citations, emphatically denied charges that Hollywood is burdened with Communist propaganda. He cited remarks of Washington theatreman Sidney B. Lust that the lat-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Mayer Elected Head Of MP Associates

Arthur Mayer has been elected president of Motion Picture Associates, succeeding Freed Schwartz who held that office for two years. Others elected were: Morris Sanders, first vice-president; Robert Fannon, second vice-president; Harold Klein, secretary; Saul Trauner, treasurer; David Burkan, sergeant-at-arms.

Fifteen directors were elected, as follows: Leo Brecher, Matthew Cahan, Jack Ellis, Simon Fabian, Jack Farkas, Joseph Felder, Max Fellerman, Howard Levy, Ira Meinhardt, Charles Penser, Samuel Rinzler, Bert

(*Continued on page* 4)

CURB CRIME FILMS, UNSAVOURY TITLES

Changes in Ad, Production Codes

THE following changes in the Production Code were adopted by the Motion Picture Association board of directors here yesterday:

Added to Section XIII (Treatment of Crime in Motion Pictures):

> **"No picture shall be approved dealing with the life of a notorious criminal of current or recent times which uses the name, nickname or alias of such notorious criminal in the film, nor shall a picture be approved if based upon the life of such a notorious criminal unless the character shown in the film be**

(*Continued on page* 4)

Elect MPF Heads for Rocky Mt. and Coast

Ray M. Hendry of Intermountain Theatres, was named vice-chairman of the Motion Picture Foundation for the Rocky Mountain area, at a meeting in Salt Lake City yesterday. Helen Garrity, Intermountain, was named secretary, and Ralph Trathen, independent exhibitor, was named treasurer. Owners from Utah, Idaho, and Montana attended. Sam Gillette, permanent area trustee, and Don Tibbs, chairman, presided.

Meanwhile, Al Taylor, manager of the Paramount exchange in Los Angeles, was elected permanent chairman for the Los Angeles area, and Paul Williams was elected trustee.

Skouras and Nizer At Hadassah Dinner

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will be honor guest at the first annual dinner to be sponsored by the New York chapter of Hadassah at the Waldorf-Astoria on Dec. 9. Other speakers will include Louis Nizer, attorney, and Rabbi Phillip S. Bernstein, who was adviser on Jewish affairs to Gen. Joseph T. McNarney in Europe.

Mrs. Samuel H. Hartley is president of the chapter, and Mrs. Murray Silverstone is chairman of the dinner committee. Proceeds will go to the organization's child rescue and rehabilitation program and to medical services in Palestine.

Changes in Production, Ad Codes Made by MPA To Bar Crime 'Cycles'

Changes in the industry's Production Code which will deny approval to films dealing with lives of modern notorious criminals and to those employing titles associated in the public mind with indecency or other unsuitable implications were approved unanimously yesterday by the board of directors of the Motion Picture Association.

A change in the Motion Picture Advertising Code also was adopted which brings it into conformity with the changes made in the Production Code, thus prohibiting the advertising of proscribed titles and material.

In addition, the MPA board struck from the industry title registration list more than 25 gangster and crime titles, including a number already used for pictures but making such titles unsuitable for re-issues hereafter.

The list of stricken titles includes

(*Continued on page* 4)

20 Houses in S.W. Film-buying Combine

DALLAS, Dec. 3.—John L. Franconi, an industry veteran of 32 years, will buy product for United Theatres Service Corp., composed of 20 situations in this territory. Directors of United have also named Franconi president. He has been in exhibition and distribution, both on his own and with others.

A "clinic" consisting of his associates will aid Franconi in evaluating product.

Cripps Withdraws UK Ad Tax Bill

London, Dec. 3.—Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced withdrawal of the government's advertising tax bill in the House of Commons this evening.

Bill, which would make only 50 per cent of advertising expenditures tax exempt (at present such expenditures are entirely tax exempt), was opposed strongly by the British film industry.

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, is due back in New York Monday from Canada.

●

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, left New York by plane yesterday for London for talks with J. ARTHUR RANK. He will return early next week.

●

EDWARD MOREY, Monogram-Allied Artists vice-president, left here last night for Toronto and, after his return here tomorrow, will leave for Chicago at the weekend to meet company president STEVE BROIDY.

●

MILTON GOODMAN, assistant to Columbia short subject sales manager MAURICE GRAD, was married yesterday to ESTELLE SHAY of Flushing, L. I.

●

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, is in Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati and Lexington, Ky., this week.

●

ROBERT MONTGOMERY and MRS. MONTGOMERY are among passengers who will return to the U. S. today from England on the *SS America*.

●

MAX WEINBERG, M-G-M Eastern short subjects representative, will leave here today for Luray, Va.

Producers 'Try' to Cut Films: Wilson

Efforts on the part of producers to cut production lengths by trimming scripts before pictures go into work were cited yesterday by Carey Wilson, producer of "Green Dolphin Street," at the M-G-M sales conference at the Hotel Astor, here. Wilson said there is no particular desire on the part of producers to make long pictures but many times the producer must extend lengths in order to get over certain angles or problems and effects. Even when this is the case the producer tries to cut repeatedly before a picture is sent out for national release.

Merchandising of M-G-M product from advertising and publicity viewpoints will be discussed today at the conference of territorial sales heads, their field and home office assistants and home office executives, by Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of the ad departments; Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager, and William R. Ferguson, exploitation chief.

William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, discussed the marketing of product for the major portion of the first two of the four-day sessions.

News Briefs . . .

SYDNEY SAMSON, Canadian division sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, has been granted an indeterminate leave of absence because of ill health, it was announced here yesterday by W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager. Samson will start his leave this week.

Altec Dinner Observes the Company's 10th Anniversary

A dinner was given to the board of directors and district managers of Altec Service in the Waldorf-Astoria last night as the initial event in Altec's celebration of its 10th anniversary this month.

Present were: G. L. Carrington, president; H. M. Bessey and A. A. Ward, vice-presidents; E. Z. Walters, comptroller; P. F. Thomas, treasurer; E. O. Wilschke, operations supervisor; W. J. Alford, Jr., T. H. Blodgett, A. C. Conrow, and R. C. Tripp, directors, and F. C. Dickely, A. Fiore, W. E. Gregory, L. J. Hacking, R. Hilton, J. H. Johnson, P. C. Kemp, H. S. Morris, L. D. Netter, Jr., S. M. Pariseau, C. S. Perkins, D. A. Peterson, C. R. Rininsland, Bert Sanford, M. G. Thomas, D. L. Turner, Harold Wengler and C. J. Zern.

Examine Schenck, Vogel Next In Fifth and Walnut Suit

Monroe E. Stein, attorney for Fifth and Walnut Co., operators of the National Theatre, Louisville, yesterday filed in U. S. District Court, here, a notice for examination by him, on Dec. 10 and 11, of Nicholas Schenck as president of the Louisville Operating Co., Inc., and Joseph Vogel as president of the Marcus Loew Booking Agency, in connection with Fifth and Walnut's $2,100,000 triple-damage anti-trust suit against distributors.

Sues Stanley Over Pool

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 3.—Suit has been filed by Flora H. Friedman of the Lawndale Theatre, here, against the Stanley Co. for an accounting under a pooling agreement involving her property and Stanley's Oxford. According to the suit, the two theatres had an arrangement whereby receipts from hers went to Stanley which, after allowances for expenses at both places, divided the profits, with Stanley getting two-thirds. Miss Friedman asks $6,504 as the amount due her for the months of June to October 1947.

Dismisses Plagiarism Suit

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Federal Judge Ben Harrison has dismissed with prejudice a $100,000 suit brought by Paul Gordon against 20th Century-Fox, Sol Wurtzel and others, in which the plaintiff charged the defendants with having plagiarized his "Adam's Children" in their "Dangerous Millions."

Maria Montez Settles Suit

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3.—Suit brought by Maria Montez to restrain Universal-International from further exhibition of "The Exile," unless her billing conforms to the terms of her contract which calls for top spot, has been settled out of court on payment of an undisclosed sum to the actress.

SECOND vacancy on United Artists' board of directors arises wth the resignation of Arnold Grant. Franklin Cole withdrew last month. Both represented Mary Pickford.

Critics Name Officers

Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., and Thomas M. Pryor have been elected chairman and secretary, respectively, of the New York Film Critics. The new officers succeed Archer Winsten and Joseph Pihodna. On Dec. 29, the group will vote for the year's "best" films.

Chinese to Honor Selznick

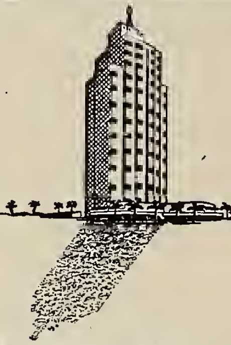
David O. Selznick will be presented with the "Order of the Brilliant Star," one of China's highest decorations, for his efforts in behalf of China relief for the past seven years. The award will be made at a reception today in the St. Regis Hotel here.

Warner Sales Meet Starts Here Today

On the agenda for the two-day sales meeting of Warner district managers, which will get underway here today, is an outline by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, of the company's sales policy for current and future releases through Eastertime.

Product to be discussed includes "My Wild Irish Rose," Technicolor; "Always Together," "The Treasure of Sierra Madre," "Tisa," a United States Pictures production; "The Voice of the Turtle," "April Showers" and "Life with Father."

Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, will outline some advertising and promotion plans for the product. Other speakers will be Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian sales manager; Roy Haines, Western sales manager; Norman Ayers, Southern sales manager; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department, and Norman H. Moray, president of Warner News, Inc., and sales manager for short subjects.



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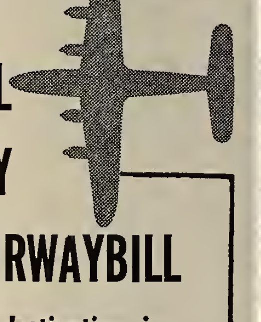

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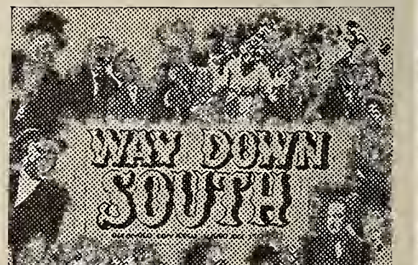

One of four Re-Releases by
Screencraft Pictures Inc.

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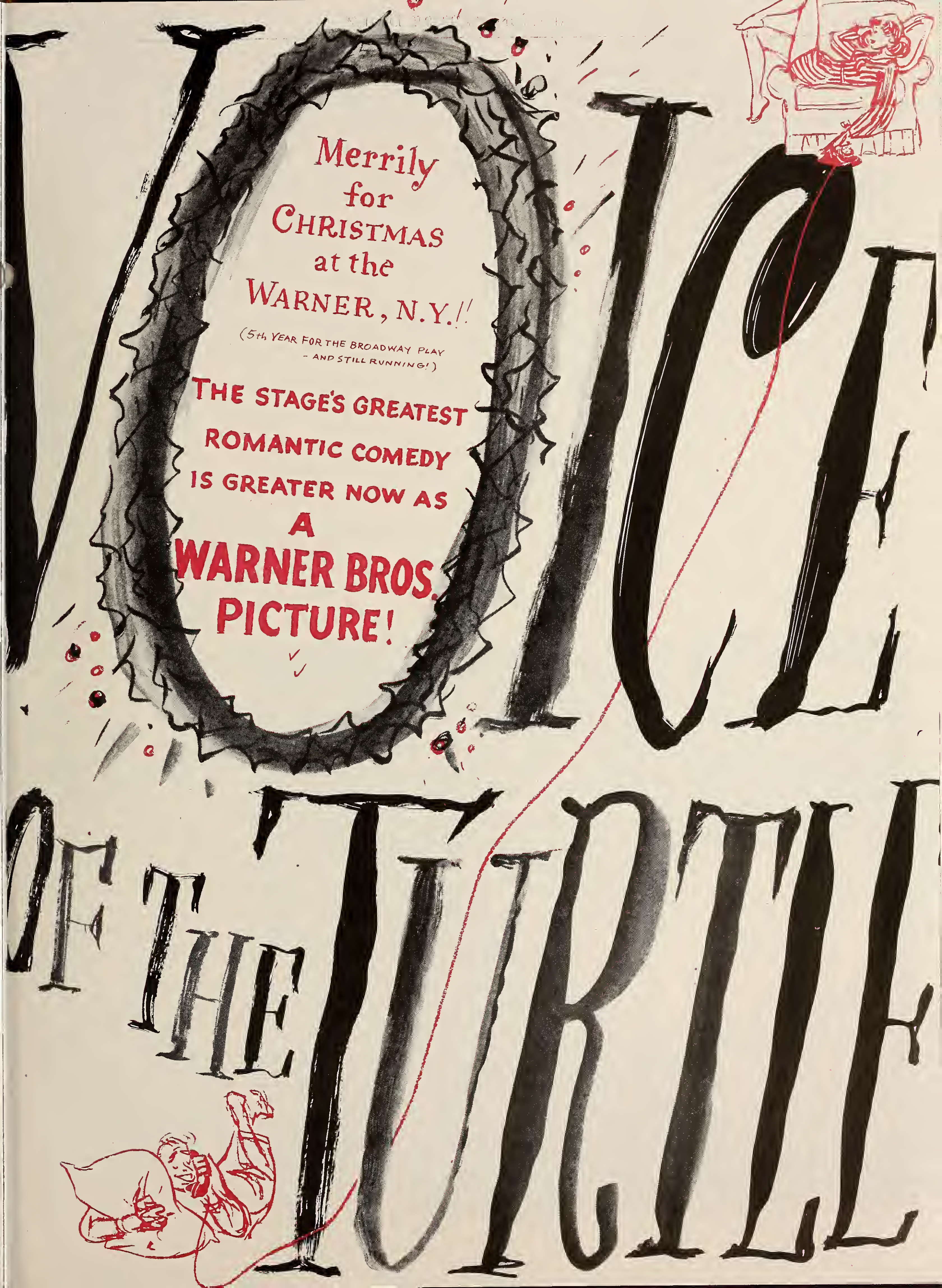

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for
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at the
WARNER, N.Y.!!

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- AND STILL RUNNING!)

THE STAGE'S GREATEST
ROMANTIC COMEDY
IS GREATER NOW AS
A
WARNER BROS.
PICTURE!

Code Changes

(*Continued from page* 1)

all those using the name of Al Capone, Dillinger, Roger Tuohy and other gangsters, as well as such titles as "The Killers," "Shoot to Kill," "The Last Gangster," "Ladies of the Mob," "The Racketeer," "This Gun for Hire," "Gang War" and the like.

Purpose of the move, according to Eric Johnston, MPA president, is to further strengthen the industry's system of self-regulation covering picture content, titles and advertising "and to avoid any cycles of motion pictures dealing with gangsters and organized crimes of violence."

Within the industry the action is regarded as having been spurred by several recent moves to bring Capone's life story to the screen and by the objections of church and other groups to "Forever Amber," a title associated in the public mind with an unsavory character.

The MPA said that three titles submitted for registration last month "have been voluntarily withdrawn." They are: "The Capone Story," "How We Trapped Capone" and "Gun Moll."

The Production Code Administration recently disapproved a treatment of Capone's life by Westbrook Pegler, newspaper columnist, and is known to have rejected all other Capone scripts submitted to it in recent years.

"Today's action," Johnston said, "is further evidence of the determination of our members to utilize our self-regulatory machinery to the fullest to assure decency and good taste in motion pictures, titles and advertising."

Changes in Ad, Production Codes

(*Continued from page* 1)

punished for crimes shown in the film as committed by him."

Replacing Section XI (Film Titles):

"The following titles shall not be used

"1. Titles which are salacious, indecent, obscene, profane or vulgar.

"2. Titles which suggest or are currently associated in the public mind with material, characters or occupations unsuitable for the screen.

"3. Titles which are otherwise objectionable."

Following is the text of the amendment to the Motion Picture Advertising Code adopted by the board:

"Section XIII. Titles of source materials or occupations or names of characters on which motion pictures may be based should not be exploited in advertising or upon the screen if such titles or names are in conflict with the provisions of the Production Code affecting titles."

SCTOA to Hear Coyne

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Robert Coyne, executive secretary of Theatre Owners of America, will address a special membership meeting of Southern California Theatre Owners Association on Friday.

Walsh, AFL Heads To Meet on Politics

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, will leave New York today for Washington to attend a meeting of American Federation of Labor presidents tomorrow and Saturday. They will make final plans for the establishment of "Labor's Educational and Political League," proposed AFL public relations program.

"IA" is expected to figure prominently in the program, since it has already established a film committee, headed by Roy Brewer, to weigh the possibility of producing a series of motion pictures on the U. S. labor movement.

MGM To Hold Rally To Aid Federation

M-G-M employes and executives will hold a noon-hour rally in the home office next Tuesday for contributions to the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies' fund-raising drive. A goal of $325,000 has been set by the amusement division.

Si Fabian, chairman of the amusement division, and Arthur Schwartz, industry attorney and chairman of the FJP speakers' bureau, will address the rally.

Binford Bans 'Orleans'

MEMPHIS, Dec. 3.—Chairman Lloyd T. Binford of the local Board of Censors, who lately has banned several pictures, has banned United Artists' "New Orleans." Jules Levey produced.

Allied States

(*Continued from page* 1)

or if the Copyright Law has not been amended so as to curb Ascap's activities, the funds deposited shall be paid over to Ascap and be received as dues of the subscribing exhibitor.

Since it is by no means certain that a final decision can be secured or passage of legislation effected within a year, the committee shall seek an agreement which will permit renewal of the arrangement for an additional year. In case the committee is unable to make such an agreement with Ascap, the funds received from subscribing exhibitors shall become a "defense" fund to be disbursed in the discretion of the committee in aiding in the defense of suits brought by Ascap.

The committee will be appointed by the president of Allied and will serve without pay.

Report Due Jan. 10

The regional associations will canvass their members and report to Allied States no later than Jan. 10 the number of individual members committing themselves to the plan and the amount of each individual subscription to the fund. Only the Iowa-Nebraska unit objected to the plan.

W. L. Ainsworth took the convention floor to announce that Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Allied met this morning with 80 per cent of the members attending and unanimously approved the plan.

A proposal by Benjamin Berger, North Central Allied, to raise funds to "expose" the tactics of producer-distributor organizations was not acted upon. Jack Kirsch, Allied president, said he wanted plans on Berger's proposal before making any commitments but that the Allied board is now working and thinking along those lines.

Alleges NSS 'Monopoly'

National Screen Service came in for criticism from Fred A. Beedle, Western Pennsylvania Allied vice-president, who charged NSS with a monopoly in advertising media and called for action to permit competition in this field. Kirsch disclosed that the special meetings of the Allied board yesterday and today had discussed the subject and that George Dembow, NSS general sales manager, was asked to participate. Since lengthy discussion was impossible at this time, Kirsch continued, the matter has been placed foremost on the agenda of the next national board meeting to be held in February.

Other resolutions adopted by the convention in its closing session were on the curtailment of product, local checkers, tie-in sales, operating costs and one to resist an attempt to raise rentals on pretext of needed economy through loss of the foreign market.

Mayer Elected Head

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sanford, Seymour Schussel, Fred Schwartz and Cy Seymour.

The elections were held here yesterday at the Hotel Piccadilly, with Schwartz presiding. It was announced that $2,500 was donated to the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital.

Associates now has 438 members. It will hold its annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria on May 14. As of Oct. 1, assets were $60,000. Some $7,300 was donated to charity during the year ended Oct. 1.

"WALK"
WILL START TALK
about the screen's most relentless manhunt!
"We'll make out, Kay... Keeping clear of the police is the one thing I know."
Hal Wallis'
"I WALK ALONE"
It's Paramount

Patriotism Secure

(*Continued from page* 1)

ter had not seen Communist propaganda in films in his 32 years in the industry, and added that he, personally, was a frequent filmgoer and had "yet to see a film that is not American in concept and feeling."

Holifield praised the role of films as "salesmen abroad for the American way of life, as well as for American products," and pointed out that the industry during the war "unselfishly gave its time and talents without thought of reward."

Capital Grand Jury May Get Contempt Citations Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—U. S. District Attorney George M. Fay said here today that he expects to present the contempt citations of the 10 Hollywood directors, writers, and producers to the Grand Jury tomorrow or Friday.

Meanwhile, a sub-committee of the House Un-American Activities Committee today decided to go ahead with drafting legislation to curb the Communist Party in this country.

Unions, Producers' Unit Meet on 'Subversives' Policy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3.—Board members and officers of the Screen Actors, Writers and Directors guilds tonight were dinner guests of the producers' committee in charge of implementing the policy on employment of subversives in the industry which was drawn up last week in New York. A thorough canvass of the situation and problems of all concerned was planned as a means of eliminating misunderstandings and establishing a common ground on which, it was hoped, the guilds can map a uniform policy with respect to their obligations to their memberships.

Review

"Good News"

(*M-G-M*)

IT is not reviewing "Good News" to report that Gus Eyssell thought enough of this attraction to book it for Radio City Music Hall, where it will open today. But lots of exhibitors will not have to know anything beyond.

The fact is, however, Metro has a lively and active entry here which makes amends for a well nigh invisible story with the nostalgic song numbers of the original musical comedy—the title song and "Varsity Drag," for instance—and a good deal of zip and pep on the part of an attractive young cast which turns out to be a particularly fortunate choice for this blow-by-blow account of puppy-love-making at an unknown college called Tait.

If this show lumbers on occasion, put it down to the usual frailties of the usual musical comedy book. If it seems occasionally old-fashioned, remember what it shows was supposed to have happened back in '27 when Coolidge refused to run and Will Rogers was mayor of Beverly Hills.

Peter Lawford is captain of the football team and very sure of his ground with the co-eds. June Allyson is the assistant librarian who wants to flap with a boy friend provided she had one. The menace is Patricia Marshall whose specialty is dazzling and whose mission is marriage with millions. Interspersed with song and dance in Technicolor is the gradually developing romance between Lawford and Miss Allyson. Naturally, it comes off after misunderstandings and musical comedy heartache.

"Good News" was based on that now-distant musical of the same title. Lawrence Schwab, Lew Brown, Frank Mandel, Buddy De Sylva and Lew Henderson wrote it for Broadway where it was a success. Betty Comden and Adolph Green wrote the script and with Roger Edens, who also doubled as associate producer, furnished additional material for Arthur Freed, producer, and Charles Walters, director. Although Miss Allyson, by protocol, is billed above her, it is the impish and pleasant Joan McCracken who makes the sharpest impress. She sings well and, of course, her Broadway experience makes it foregone that she would dance well.

"Good News" finalizes as an audience attraction which will render a good account of itself.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec., 1947.

RED KANN

Drop Stage Shows

Loew's State here will discontinue its vaudeville policy on Dec. 24, Ernest Emerling, Loew theatre executive, said here yesterday. High costs of stage talent was given as the reason for the change. The new policy will be that of single features on first-runs, and double features for subsequent runs.

To Aid Salvation Army

Loew Theatres in New York City has pledged cooperation in promoting the 1948 "Annual Maintenance Appeal" of the Salvation Army.

The appeal, which will run from Jan. 6 through Feb. 21, is for $1,000,000.

New Goldwyn Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

vey is president, intends to take more than a producer's interest in the scheme by way of moving into exhibition itself. A 25 per cent interest in the Astor, Boston, already has been acquired and similar deals are intended in at least a few other principal cities. Thus, pre-release playing time fitting into the new pattern would be assured.

Openings will be timed so that, as closely as can be determined, the general release of a picture would coincide with the half-way mark of the prior runs. "Bishop's Wife" pre-release schedule follows: Astor, New York, Dec. 10; Woods, Chicago, shortly before Dec. 25; Astor, Boston, and Carthay Circle, Los Angeles, Dec. 25, and the Colony, Miami Beach, Jan. 14. Scale at all five runs will have a top of $1.20. Don Jacocks operates the Boston Astor, formerly the Tremont.

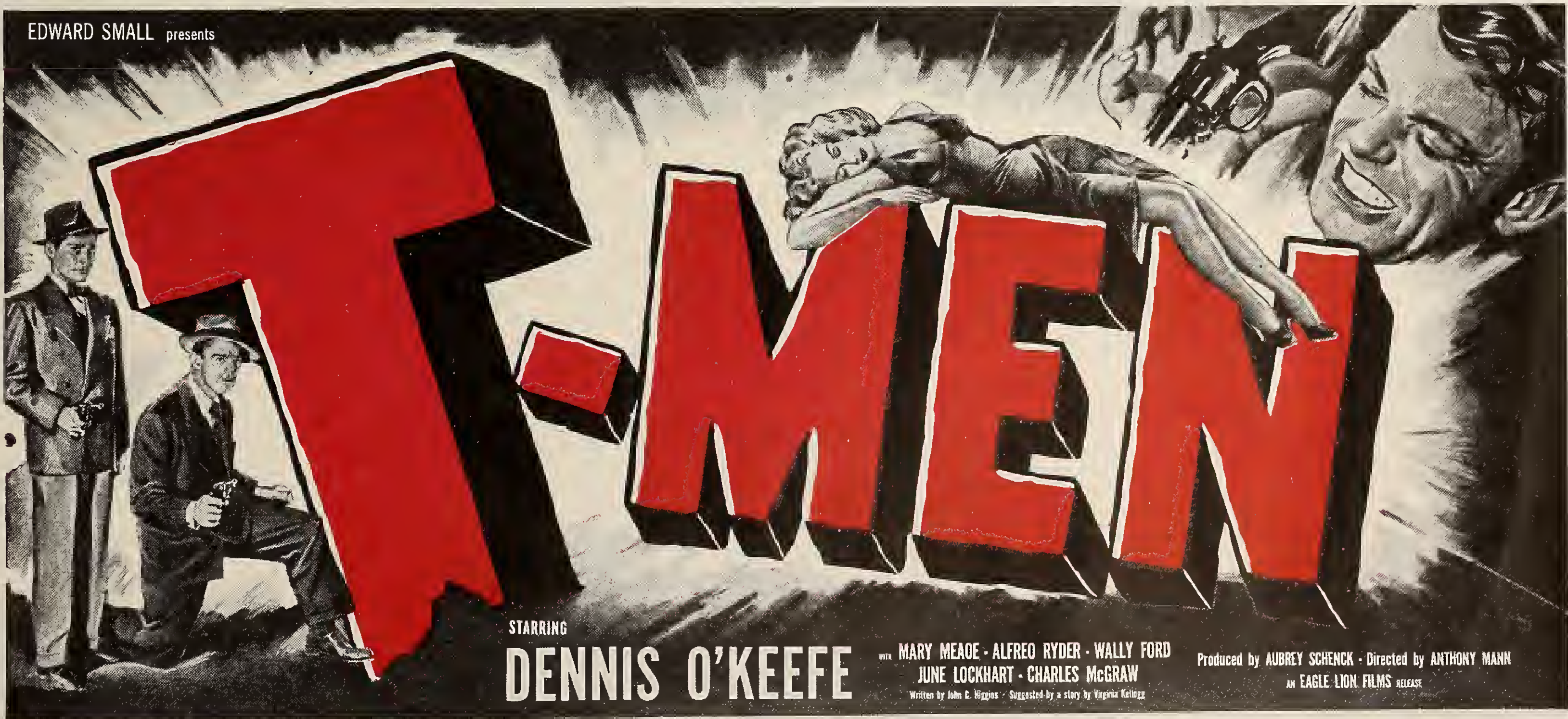
Map Appeal Steps

(*Continued from page* 1)

they are to be filed with the high court; also, the order of appearance of each company's attorneys in addressing the court in a two-day session, and the division of the hearing time allotted, the companies being hopeful of obtaining five hours to present their arguments. The Department of Justice is held likely to be granted three hours.

Slated to address the court are: Whitney North Seymour, Paramount; James F. Byrnes, 20th Century-Fox; William J. Donovan, RKO; Joseph Proskauer, Warners; John W. Davis, Loew's; Thomas Turner Cooke or Charles D. Prutzman, Universal; Louis Frohlich, Columbia, and Edward Raftery, United Artists.

IT HITS . . . AND HITS . . . AND HITS—LIKE A PILEDRIVER!


EDWARD SMALL presents
T-MEN
STARRING
DENNIS O'KEEFE
with MARY MEADE · ALFRED RYDER · WALLY FORD
JUNE LOCKHART · CHARLES McGRAW
Written by John C. Higgins · Suggested by a story by Virginia Kellogg
Produced by AUBREY SCHENCK · Directed by ANTHONY MANN
AN EAGLE LION FILMS RELEASE

THE TERRIFIC—AND TRUE STORY OF THE TREASURY'S TOUGH GUYS!

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

AFTER TEN YEARS, RE-DEDICATION

TEN years ago, "a new and wholly independent organization," Altec Service started its business career with a promise, a dedication. Altec dedicated itself "to a broader, and more complete conception of technical service than the exhibitor has known in the past."

"Altec Service Corporation, alert, alive, aggressive, will do everything in its power to deserve, to secure, and to maintain the esteem and good will of the exhibitors of America."

In these ten years, Altec believes, it has honorably fulfilled that promise, that dedication. The judgment of the motion picture industry has given to Altec Service the responsibility of servicing more theatres than any other service organization.

Altec has consistently allied itself with the forces that work for the betterment of the exhibitor's interests and the conservation of his assets; it has made a continuous investment of its own engineering resources, in intimate cooperation with the industry's leading technical minds, to bring better quality of sound to every theatre. With scientific caution, Altec weighs and tests all new developments in science, both large and small, before recommending them to the theatres it services.

This philosophy of "service beyond the contract" has earned for Altec not alone the confidence but the friendship of its customers; looking forward to the decades ahead, Altec *re*-dedicates itself to a *still* broader, and *more* complete conception of technical service than the exhibitor has known in the past.

ALTEC

SERVICE CORPORATION

AN HONORED NAME IN THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 109 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1947 TEN CENTS

ASCAP Heads Are Cool to Allied's Plan

Say They Would Advise Board to Reject It

Officials of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers said here yesterday that on the basis of information at hand on the music tax proposal adopted by the Allied States convention in Milwaukee on Wednesday they would recommend to the Ascap board of directors that the Society refuse to agree to any phase of the plan.

However, it was stated that the Society has received no official notice of the Allied plan yet. It was made clear that action on it would be up to the Ascap board.

The Allied plan contemplates the contribution of the equivalent of a

(*Continued on page* 4)

MPF Trustee Agenda Set

First operational action to be taken by the national trustees of the Motion Picture Foundation when they convene at the Hotel Astor, here, on Monday will be to divide the membership of 41 into three major committees; one on the amendment of bylaws, the second a nominating committee, and a plan-and-scope committee.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Barney Balaban, chairman of the MPF's temporary coordinating committee, following a meeting of the trustees' agenda committee.

High Costs Bring RKO Dividend Cut

Although, according to Radio-Keith-Orpheum, "film rentals and theatre receipts have continued at a relatively high level, current production costs and increasing difficulty of converting foreign currencies into dollars make it desirable for the present to conserve cash resources." Accordingly, the company's board of directors yesterday declared a quarterly dividend of 15 cents per share on the common stock, a cut from the previous quarterly dividend of 30 cents.

The dividend is payable on Jan. 2, to stockholders of record on Dec. 15.

Colosseum to OrganizeN. Y.

The Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen will organize a unit in the New York exchange area if and when the National Labor Relations Board certifies the Colosseum as the legal collective bargaining union for film salesmen, David Beznor, Colosseum attorney, said here yesterday. He indicated that plans for organizing here have already been set. Salesmen in the only other unorganized area, New Haven, will be invited to join either the Boston or New York unit, he said.

Yesterday was the final day of hearings here before NLRB officer Robert Silagi, and the fate of the Colosseum will be determined by the board in Washington next month on the basis of testimony submitted by the union and distributors. Silagi will file a report in Washington on Monday. Meanwhile the principals have seven days in which to submit briefs to the Washington office.

Air Contempt Cases Before Grand Jury

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Cases of 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers cited for contempt of the House were partially presented to the Grand Jury today by U. S. Attorney George Fay.

Fay, who was assisted by William Hitz, said he did not know when presentation of the cases to the 23-man jury will be completed.

Lead-off witness today was Robert Stripling, chief investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee which recommended the contempt charges when the 10 did not answer questions concerning their political affiliation.

Fabian and Nizer To Address FJP

Si Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres and chairman of the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies; Louis Nizer, industry attorney; Max A. Cohen, president of Cinema Circuit, and Norman S. Goetz, FJP president, will be the principal speakers at the FJP luncheon on Dec. 11 at the Hotel Astor, here. It will mark the termination of FJP's current fund-raising campaign.

5-Year Amortization Sought in Congress

Washington, Dec. 4.—A bill providing for a five-year amortization of capital investments was introduced in the Senate today by Sen. Capehart and in the House by Rep. Grant. These lenient terms could apply under the bill to any "facility, land, building, machinery, or equipment, or part thereof, to the extent constructed, reconstructed, erected, installed or acquired after Dec. 31, 1947."

Hollywood Has the Reds in a Dither

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—"Hollywood is now feverishly working on the production of a series of anti-Soviet films, designed to slander the Soviet Union."

Don't get worried, folks. That's not a congressman or Administration official speaking. That's Radio Moscow, as monitored by the State Department, sounding off.

Other choice items in a Soviet broadcast on the U. S. film industry:

"Those who refuse to work on the production of imperialist films in Hollywood are subjected to pressure and Red-baiting.

"In 'The Best Years of Our Lives,' the best years refer to war years, and the heroes of the film yearned for a new war.

"The representatives of American reactionary Bohemians, Adolphe Menjou and Gary Cooper, demanded the death sentence for Charlie Chaplin, Katharine Hepburn, Henry Fonda, Edward G. Robinson, and other famous American actors for their progressive views."

William Erbb Killed In Auto Accident

BOSTON, Dec. 4.—William H. Erbb, 53, on leave of absence from his post as general manager of distribution for Selznick International in England was killed yesterday when the car which he was driving went out of control and plunged into the Charles River near Soldiers' Field in Cambridge.

Erbb, formerly Eastern division manager for Paramount, returned to the United States six months ago with Mrs. Erbb who was convalescing from a serious auto accident in England. His most recent distribution activity was for Selznick in the field in this country.

Survivors include the widow and his mother. Burial will be in Forest Hills Cemetery here, tomorrow.

Code Changes Hit Reissue Of 14 Films

New Titles Would Not Matter; No Loopholes

Stringency of the amendments to the Motion Picture Production and Advertising Codes, unanimously approved by the Motion Picture Association board on Wednesday, came into clearer focus here yesterday with the disclosure that the 14 pictures, the titles of which were considered objectionable, are now not qualified for re-release, regardless of title change, with Production or Advertising Code approval.

Persons who had attended the Motion Picture Association board meeting where the action was voted flatly stated, "There are no loopholes and none were intended."

The 14 films and the time of their original release are: "Born to Kill" and "Shoot to Kill," 1947; "The Kill-

(*Continued on page* 4)

20th Revises 'Amber' Film

Twentieth Century-Fox has made "certain additions to and eliminations from" its production, "Forever Amber," Spyros Skouras, president, announced yesterday.

While no notice of a re-classification of the picture has been given by the National Legion of Decency, Skouras's statement is regarded as an indication that the changes referred to are a forerunner to removal of the picture by the Legion from its "C" or condemned classification. A spokesman for the Legion of Decency said yesterday that it had no comment to make on the Skouras' statement "at this time," but indicated

(*Continued on page* 4)

Industry is Foe of Bigotry: Johnston

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, this evening accepted on behalf of Dore Schary, RKO Radio production vice-president, the 1947 "Humanitarian Award" of the Golden Slipper Square Club, and took the

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal - International distribution vice-president, is in Dallas today and will visit Memphis, St. Louis and Chicago before returning to New York.

•

CLARKE WALES, press liaison for the Motion Picture Association and Association of Motion Picture Producers on the Coast, will undergo an appendectomy today.

•

A. W. VAN DYCK, president of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen, has returned to Chicago from New York.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner-Pathe News president and short subjects sales head, left here last night for Oklahoma City.

•

ALBERT DEZEL, president of Albert Dezel Prod., is expected here Monday from Detroit.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here tomorrow for Oklahoma City.

•

JOSEPH BERNHARD, Film Classics president, will leave the Coast for New York by plane tomorrow.

•

HARRY FEINSTEIN, Warner Theres assistant zone manager in Pittsburgh, is in New York.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram-Allied Artists president, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for Milwaukee.

•

WILLIAM PINE, producer, has left the Coast for New York.

•

RICHARD WHORF, Eagle-Lion director, is in New York from Hollywood.

Kelly, Rank Confer On Odeon-GCF Deal

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, New York, and J. Arthur Rank today started a prolonged conference here relative to the proposed absorption of Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp. by Odeon Theatres, Ltd. The talks may require Kelly to extend his stay over Christmas.

It is expected that Kelly will consult with U.A. officials in New York and return here for additional conferences with Rank before U.A.'s stand on the GCF purchase by Odeon —of which U.A. owns a 50 per cent stock interest—can be resolved.

RKO Films Fight

An RKO Pathe camera crew will be on hand at Madison Square Garden tonight to film the Joe Louis-"Jersey Joe" Walcott heavyweight championship bout for a special two-reeler to be released by RKO Radio. By tomorrow morning prints are expected to be enroute to key city theatres.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

UNEXPECTEDLY called back to Hollywood, Dore Schary was unable to be in Philadelphia last night to accept the 1947 Humanitarian Award of the Golden Slipper Square Club for having produced "Crossfire." Eric Johnston served as deputy and made a speech. Subject: "Intolerance," and by his own subdivision, "intolerance as a factor in our economic life."

He is proud, averred Johnston, because in Hollywood "it's ability that counts"; because in Hollywood, "where a man comes from is not important"; because in Hollywood "the question is: What can he do?"

He is proud because: "Our industry has never troubled its head about a man's nativity. What it's interested in is his skill and talent—his ability to produce pictures for the joy and progress of humankind. That has proved to be all-important to the industry. It has been a big factor in the industry's growth, a simple, practical factor. [Hollywood] just sought and found the best talent it could without regard to how a person spelled his name or cut his hair."

In the category of pictures produced for the joy and progress of humankind, Johnston included "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Crossfire." In connection with the latter, he credited Schary for "smashing through with a challenging, dramatic picture which is settling their thinking caps on millions of Americans."

We share that view. But in doing so, we cannot be unmindful of Adrian Scott, who actually produced, and Edward Dmytryk, who directed it. If a challenging, dramatic picture striking at intolerance has been made, they cannot be separated from it.

Inevitably, it must appear a strange contradiction that men of whom it may be said that they fit Johnston's definition of talent and skill have been discharged by their studio for failing to answer the Thomas committee on its question if they were, or are now, Communists. It is unfortunate the issues are so unclearly defined that a contradiction such as this becomes possible. We don't know the answer, but we wish there was one resisting challenge.

News Briefs . . .

HARRY M. WARNER will be honored in Hollywood today as national chairman of the Friendship Food Train Committee when the Hollywood Foreign Correspondents Association presents a plaque to the Warner president. The award will commend Warner for "outstanding humanitarian contributions."

Congressman Lauds Bernhard And FC's West Point Film

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4. — Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, was lauded in the *Congressional Record* by Rep. Chet Holifield of California for the company's own first production, "Spirit of West Point."

The picture, Holifield said, "truly exemplifies the American spirit of competition and fair play." He took cognizance of "the fact that the facilities of one of our greatest military institutions, West Point, were made available."

Actors' Temple Benefit Sunday

Stars of stage, screen and radio will appear Sunday night at the Imperial Theatre here for the benefit of the Actors' Temple, Rabbi Bernard Birstein announces. Robert M. Weitman, managing director of Paramount, will produce the show.

CITED for "his leadership in enlisting the support of the industry in humanitarian service throughout the war," and for other efforts, David O. Selznick was presented with the Order of the Brilliant Star yesterday by the Chinese government at a reception sponsored by the United Service to China, at the Hotel St. Regis, here.

French Aim at Foreign Marts

Domestic distribution revenue in France is insufficient, and the French are aiming their pictures toward foreign markets, B. L. Garner, president of Vog Films, and vice-president of Foremost Films, asserted here yesterday, on his return from five months in France and Italy. Garner brought back five French films and is underwriting four more in France.

Gentleman's Agreement
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.
20th CENTURY-FOX

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
in TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

16th WEEK! SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR with BORIS KARLOFF
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Katharine HEPBURN
Paul HENREID
Robert WALKER
in M-G-M's
'SONG of LOVE'
IN PERSON
LORRAINE ROGNAN
BETTY JANE WATSON
JOHNNY MORGAN

GARY COOPER • PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM • JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
with KIRK DOUGLAS • RHONDA FLEMING • RICHARD WEBB
RKO RADIO

RAY MILLAND • MARLENE DIETRICH
in "Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
In Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

THUNDER IN THE VALLEY
Color by TECHNICOLOR
Starring LON McCALLISTER
EDMUND GWENN
PEGGY ANN GARNER
20th CENTURY-FOX
IN PERSON!
DAN DAILEY
Extra!
HARRISON and FISHER
ROXY
7th Ave. & 50th St.

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he Boxoffice Champions Grow Greater at 20th CENTURY-FOX

Miracle on 34th Street

← *Bring it back for Christmas!*

I wonder who's kissing her now

TECHNICOLOR

← *Still among the tops on the hit parade!*

"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"

TECHNICOLOR

← *There's no business like SRO business!*

. . . and M. P. Herald acclaims

as boxoffice champions for October . . .

OCTOBER

FOREVER AMBER

TECHNICOLOR

OCTOBER

The Foxes of Harrow

Watch the List of Champions for these Titles . . . **"GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" • "DAISY KENYON" "CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE"—Technicolor • "YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME" • "BALLAD OF FURNACE CREEK"**

M-G-M Sales Meet Ends Here Today

Importance of advertising and promoting pictures was stressed here yesterday by Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising-publicity, to M-G-M territorial sales managers and field and home office assistants, meeting here at the Hotel Astor. The four-day meeting will conclude today.

Silar F. Seadler, advertising manager, discussed campaigns on "Cass Timberlane," "Green Dolphin Street," "Good News," and other pictures. He also discussed promotions developed on "Cynthia," "Green Dolphin Street," "The Hucksters," "The Yearling."

William R. Ferguson, exploitation manager, stated the company still has 97 services available to exhibitors and that while some services have been eliminated, new ones have been added.

Code Changes

(*Continued from page 1*)

ers" and "They Made Me a Killer," 1946; "Dillinger," 1945; "Roger Touhy, Gangster" and "The Racket Man," 1944; "This Gun for Hire," 1943; "The Murder Ring," 1942; "The Last Gangster," 1937; "The Racketeers," 1930; "Me Gangster," "Ladies of the Mob" and "Gang War," 1928.

It was further said that fairness dictated that the new provisions not having been in existence when current releases went into production these pictures should not be so governed. Thus such pictures as "Forever Amber" will remain unaffected by the new Production Code section which includes a ban on "Titles which suggest or are currently associated in the public mind with material, characters, or occupations unsuitable for the screen." However, current releases such as "Amber" must be acted upon under the new set of self-regulations should they come up for reissue.

Disqualification of the aforementioned 14 films lies in the fact that, according to law, reissues under new titles may be shown only when the former titles are "clearly, definitely, distinctly and unmistakably stated and set forth both in the photoplays and in any and all advertising matter used in connection herewith in type equal in size and prominence to those used in displaying the new title."

The Advertising Code, amended to conform to the Production Code, directs that the 14 titles may not be used in promotional copy. The legal opinion was given by the New York Circuit Court of Appeals in 1924 in upholding a directive of the Federal Trade Commission. Another FTC directive concerning Astor Pictures last year was substantially the same.

Ellaville Theatre Burns

ELLAVILLE, Ga., Dec. 4. — The Ellaville Theatre has been destroyed by fire.

Investigate this new, low cost source of supply! Send bookings for a week's trial FREE!

Filmack's New
PREVUE
TRAILER
SERVICE

Filmack 1327 S. Wabash Chi.

'Amber' Changed

(*Continued from page 1*)

that a statement might be forthcoming within a day or two.

Following is the Skouras' statement:

"The history of 20th Century-Fox is replete with instances of pioneering pictures carrying high moral or otherwise wholesome content. Many outside the company have hailed our record in making a solid contribution along religious, sociological, educational and patriotic lines. I cite such pictures as 'Song of Bernadette,' 'How Green Was My Valley,' 'Keys of the Kingdom,' 'The Purple Heart,' the current widely hailed 'Gentleman's Agreement' and the forthcoming 'Captain from Castile' which has a wonderful quality everyone will love.

"When the Legion of Decency placed the picture called 'Forever Amber' in its 'C' classification, that was the first time since its foundation that such a step had been taken with respect to a 20th Century-Fox production. This occurred in spite of the painstaking efforts of our studio to make 'Forever Amber' a wholly unobjectionable film.

"After a study of objections voiced by the National Legion of Decency and other organizations representative of public opinion to the motion picture, 'Forever Amber,' the company has decided upon certain additions to and eliminations from the picture as originally released. The production as amended offers an attraction of widest interest to the whole public, with no sacrifice whatsoever to its dramatic power and beauty.

"I wish at this time to correct an unfortunate impression created by statements made by us incident to the disapproval of the original version of 'Forever Amber' by the Legion of Decency.

"These statements were interpreted as questioning the right of religious leaders to guide the adherents of their faith on moral questions. No such purpose was intended, neither was it our purpose to indicate any acceptance whatsoever of the theory that the popularity of a motion picture is a true criterion of its moral character.

"We sought with painstaking effort to produce in 'Forever Amber' a picture against which no objections would be raised. However, to our surprise and disappointment objections were expressed which resulted in regrettable assertions on our part that gave offense that was not intended."

MPF Trusteeship for Monogram Next Year

Motion Picture Foundation's distribution trustees-at-large, composed of executives of all companies except Monogram, will rotate in membership from year to year and will be opened to Monogram representation next year, a member of the MPF coordinating committee disclosed here yesterday. Each year, he said, five new distributor trustees will be elected to replace five retiring members. As MPF by-laws limit distributor trustees to 10, it was not possible at the outset to extend invitations to all 11 top distributors to name trustees, the MPF spokesman said.

Johnston on Bigotry

(*Continued from page 1*)

occasion to again assail the Memphis censor board's "outrageous violation of every American principle" in banning Hal Roach's "Curley" because Negro children were characters in the picture. The club cited Schary for his "efforts to combat bigotry and intolerance through motion pictures."

"Hollywood," Johnston said, "has held open the door of opportunity regardless of racial background or religious belief." The industry, he added, "knows that discrimination is bad business and that the very opposite of discrimination is a factor in success."

Citing Schary's "Crossfire" and 20th Century-Fox's "Gentleman's Agreement," Johnston said the industry has gone a long way in fighting intolerance.

ASCAP-Allied

(*Continued from page 1*)

year's Ascap dues by Allied members, the money to be held in escrow pending the outcome of court and legislative efforts to restrict Ascap activities. It calls for an agreement by Ascap not to sue unlicensed exhibitors participating in the plan. The money would be turned over to Ascap if the legal and legislative actions are unsuccessful, or it could be used to defend exhibitors sued by Ascap.

'Frisco Strike Averted

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—Last minute action by Charles Skouras, National Theatres president, and IATSE executives averted a strike of 200 janitors at 84 theatres set to begin last midnight. Negotiations have been resumed with Charles Hardy of Janitors Local No. 9.

Oklahoma Group to Meet on Dec. 8-9

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 4.—Formal affiliation with Theatre Owners of America will be voted on at the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma convention at the Skirvin Hotel here on Dec. 8-9.

Other subjects on the agenda include Ascap's rate increase demands, Federal admission tax reduction, advanced admission prices, 16mm. competition and television. Ted Gamble, president of the TOA, will be the honor guest.

SDG Backs Filing Non-Red Affidavits

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Screen Directors Guild has adopted a resolution requiring all officers, board members, and committee members to file non-Communist affidavits. The Screen Actors Guild took the same action a month ago. The Screen Writers Guild has not taken a similar course, but indicated at last month's annual election that the step was deemed unnecessary because all electees had already declared their positions.

The Directors Guild also adopted a resolution barring any Communist from holding office or serving in an executive capacity in the unit. The resolution states, however, that the Guild does not deny the civil right of a person to belong to the Communist Party, but holds that membership in the Party binds Communists to obligations transcending those which they owe to the guild.

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VOL. 62. NO. 110 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1947 TEN CENTS

Report U.A.'s Owners Seek $6-Millions

Would Need Additional $5,000,000 Financing

If Serge Semenenko, vice-president of the First National Bank of Boston, increases his offer for the purchase of United Artists to $6,000,000 cash, it would be accepted by U.A.'s co-owners, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, sources close to the company believe.

Chaplin is described as being willing to sell his half interest in U.A. but Miss Pickford is said to have rejected Semenenko's most recent offer of $5,000,000 for the company. An increase of $1,000,000 in the offering price would sway Miss Pickford, it is believed.

However, informed sources do not appear to regard an immediate deal

(*Continued on page* 4)

UA By-Passed in Odeon Deal: Kelly

London, Dec. 7.—Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, here from New York, has protested to J. Arthur Rank that UA, although it holds considerable stock in Odeon Theatres, was not informed in advance of the proposed absorption of Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp. by Odeon. He told Rank that UA will require information on GCF's

(*Continued on page* 4)

Public Relations Program Approved

A permanent industry public relations program, together with proposals for an administrative staff and budget to carry out the program, has been approved by the board of the Motion Picture Association and may be publicly announced today.

The program is understood to be based on recommendations drawn up by the Eastern Public Information Committee of which Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, is chairman.

Jackson Park Decree Due For Court Interpretation

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Several weeks of legal study and executive conferences having failed to produce answers to many vital questions raised by the Jackson Park Theatre decree, Balaban and Katz and other defendants in the case feel that the only course open to them is experimentation and ultimate interpretation of the decree by the courts.

It appears likely that the experimentation will include simultaneous runs, competitive buying and other innovations neither clearly ordered nor clearly prohibited by the decree.

So confusing and, to many industry attorneys and executives here, unrealistic, are most of the decree's provisions that it is felt that any interpretation of such provisions becomes a legal gamble. Therefore, it is felt, the only course open is to employ the most reasonable procedures and, if they are challenged, to rely upon the courts for specific interpretations.

That any course of action which the defendants might take will be challenged is being accepted as a foregone conclusion. However, it is felt that the challenges will end in clarification of the decree by the courts, which is felt to be necessary.

Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park Theatre, told a meeting

(*Continued on page* 4)

Maas Calls Meeting Of MPEA in Prague

European representatives of the Motion Picture Export Association will meet in Prague this week for conferences with Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager. Maas, now on a global tour of MPEA countries, has arrived in the Czech capital following visits to Tokyo, Batavia and Amsterdam, the MPEA New York office reported at the weekend.

On the agenda at Prague will be discussions of distribution problems applicable to Central and Eastern European territories and formulation of policies covering operations in 1948. Slated to attend are Louis Kanturek, Eastern European supervisor; Marian Jordan, general manager of Germany; Harold L. Smith, home office representative in Germany; Wolfgang Wolf, general manager of Austria; Charles Matzner, manager of Hungary, and Eugene Van Dee, representative in Poland.

Two Tests Loom on Jackson Pk. Decree

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park Theatre, contends that Paramount's refusal to sell "Unconquered" to the Jackson Park following its advance price run in the Loop, and the continuance of advance price scales on 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" when it was moved from the Balaban and Katz State-Lake to the independent Rialto, are violations of the Jackson Park court decree.

McConnell said he plans to institute contempt proceedings in both instances.

Paramount refused to sell "Un-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Harry Warner Gets 'Friendship' Plaque

Hollywood, Dec. 7.—A two-front fight for peace and freedom through education in democracy and aid to hard-pressed nations of Western Europe was called for here on Friday by Harry M. Warner, president of Warners, in receiving from the Hollywood Foreign Correspondents Association its humanitarian award for his chairmanship of the National Friendship Train Committee.

"Hunger and ignorance are the chief allies of totalitarianism," he said. "We must fight hunger with food and other material aid. The Friendship Train was only a beginning but it proved

(*Continued on page* 4)

Grand Jury Indicts Ten for Contempt

Washington, Dec. 7.—The grand jury on Friday indicted 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers for contempt of Congress. District Attorney George Fay said he will seek arraignment for Dec. 19 or Jan. 2, and that he would urge that the trials be started in mid-January.

Meanwhile, it is expected that warrants, to be sought in Hollywood, will be issued shortly for arrest of the 10, all of whom declined to answer questions concerning their political affiliation when they appeared before the House Un-American Activities Committee in October. All will

(*Continued on page* 3)

May Change $10-Million Goal for MPF

Trustees Open Two-Day Meeting Here Today

Question of whether the Motion Picture Foundation should alter its goal of $10,000,000 for inter-industry charity purposes, in light of economic stringencies which the U. S. industry is encountering abroad, is viewed as likely to be among the many matters which will be considered by the MPF trustees during their initial convention which opens at the Hotel Astor, here, today; it will continue through tomorrow.

Since the setting up of the $10,000,000 goal, a year ago, at the MPF organizational conference in New Orleans, the industry as a whole has been forced to tighten its belt in the face of the British *ad valorem* tax situation in particular, and it is considered doubtful that a $10,000,000 goal could be reached. About $1,000,000 is reported to be in the MPF treasury now.

In addition to the regularly elected trustees and their alternates, chair-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Ascap Sees Allied Plan as 'Criminal'

Spokesmen for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers charged here on Friday that the plan approved by the Allied States convention in Milwaukee last week involving unlicensed performances of copyrighted music and the withholding of license fees, if put into effect by Allied members, would constitute deliberate infringements of copyrights.

Deliberate infringements, the spokesman said, are defined as felonies in the Federal copyright law and are

(*Continued on page* 4)

Sales Meeting on SRO Anniversary

Marking its first anniversary, Selznick Releasing Organization will hold a sales meeting on Jan. 8-10 at the Hotel Ambassador, Los Angeles, Neil Agnew, SRO president, announces.

At the meeting from the studio will be David O. Selznick; Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard; E. J.

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, Theatre Owners of America board chairman, is due here tomorrow from Portland, Ore.

•

Francis Harmon, Motion Picture Association vice-president, and John G. McCarthy, foreign department aide, are expected to return here today from Washington.

•

Virgil C. Jackson of Jackson-Murphy Theatres, Columbus, O., has been awarded the Legion of Merit for service as military attache in the Near East during the war.

•

Ray del Rio has become Film Classics salesman in New Orleans after resigning from a similar post with Eagle-Lion.

•

Eugen Sharin of Eagle-Lion's foreign sales division has returned to New York from a five-months' tour of Europe.

•

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, returned here at the weekend from the Coast.

•

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of Theatre Owners of America is expected to return here today from Hollywood.

•

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, is due back in New York today from Washington.

•

Edward Cheyfitz, Motion Picture Association aide, flew to Washington at the weekend from Hollywood.

•

Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor relations director, has returned here from Milwaukee.

•

Nate Spingold, Columbia vice-president, is expected here on Dec. 15 from the Coast.

•

Tom Connors is back in town from Hollywood.

FJP Contributions Are Up 42 Percent

An increase of 42 per cent in individual contributions in the entertainment world's drive to collect a minimum of $325,000 in 1947 for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York was reported by Si Fabian, FJP amusement division chairman, at the weekend as the campaign, which was launched on Nov. 5, entered its closing week.

Heads Para. Branch

Henry Haustein has been appointed manager of Paramount's branch in Seattle, replacing Herbert Kaufman, resigned, it has been announced by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president. Haustein had managed the Portland exchange, which on Dec. 1 was converted into a shipping station.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

VERY substantial repairs to the damaged public relations of the industry were made by the Motion Picture Association and its board of directors within the space of a single week.

A month ago industry public relations had sunk to their lowest level in years. The industry, through very little fault of its own had emerged from the Washington hearings on Communism in Hollywood in a seriously damaging light—in the eyes of the public.

Simultaneously, public attention was turned with pronounced disfavor upon singular examples of bad taste and immorality in product. While the product was isolated, by no means indicative of a trend, it was notorious in itself because it was widely known and had become, in the public mind, synonymous with salaciousness.

And then there were efforts being made concurrently, within and outside the industry, to bring to the screen not one, but several motion pictures based upon the degraded criminal life of one of the most notorious gangsters whom this or any other country, has produced.

•

The first two circumstances produced injuries to the industry, both in public relations and vital business considerations, which called for immediate and positive treatment. They might have been avoided. It is a matter of record that Eric Johnston, MPA president, recommended action to the Association of Motion Picture Producers last summer which, had it been accepted then, very probably would have avoided the injurious effects of the Washington hearings of October.

It is widely known in the industry, too, that not one, but several major companies had offered to them and rejected one of the notorious story properties which, when finally brought to the screen, compounded the public relations fractures.

•

Within the space of seven days the MPA moved to correct the serious damage already done to the industry and to avoid the new injury threatened.

By its formulation of policy on the employment of subversives or those charged with contempt of an arm of the United States Government, the organized industry repaired most, if not all, of the damage done at the Washington hearings.

By its subsequent action in denying Production Code approval to screen plays employing titles which, in the public mind, glorify either salaciousness or crime, the Association moved to help prevent a reoccurrence of public protest against material of the kind and, in some small measure, aided in the repair of damage already done.

Finally, by its further action in withholding approval of screen plays based on lives dedicated to crime, unless portrayed as enemies of society from whom justice exacts the full penalties, the Association has dissipated an immediate threat to the welfare of the industry and its public relations and has minimized the prospects of future injury from that source.

The Association and its directors are to be commended for the promptness and the forthrightness of their actions, both in repairing and reinforcing the structure of public relations.

• •

There was almost as much amazement within the trade as there was within the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers over the action with respect to Ascap taken by the national convention of Allied States in Milwaukee last week.

Allied's plan, according to convention news reports, is to seek Ascap's agreement not to collect theatre music taxes from an unlimited number of Allied member theatres for one year, or longer if need be, while unspecified legal and legislative efforts to test or restrict Ascap's licensing powers are determined.

Meanwhile, also according to the convention news reports, sums equivalent to the music taxes payable to Ascap, would be advanced by participating Allied members and held in escrow. If the legal and legislative moves come to naught, it appears, the money in escrow, i.e., the Ascap dues, would be paid to the Society. If Ascap refuses to agree to such an arrangement, the money in escrow would be used to defend actions filed against unlicensed exhibitors.

It is certain that Ascap will not be a party to such an agreement and equally certain that it will file infringement suits. If it wins them, who pays the damages *and* the unpaid dues to Ascap?

Newsreel Parade

THE crisis in France, the partition of Palestine and President Truman on vacation are highlights of current newsreels. Other items include football and some human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 29—Troops and police fight Red strikes in French crisis. Turmoil marks UN partition of Palestine. Canadians logging for pulp wood. Army flight over New Zealand's Alps. Boxing in Paris.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 227—[illegible]lice battle Reds in Paris. Camera-ma[illegible]eveals secrets of flight. President [illegible]an on vacation. Twenty escape train crash. Overseas sports.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 30—Basketball: NYU vs. Tulane. Zion hails Palestine partition. House-fly harnessed for gyro study. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 57—Secret of fly's flight demonstrated. Italian children honor war dead. Healthiest boy and girls meet in Chicago. Pedigree cats frolic in Brooklyn show. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 32—New Zealand fire takes 40 lives. France calls more reservists in crisis. Plane jumps runway, kills nine. Young farmers hold national show.

MGM Field Sales Meetings This Week

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer sales managers and field assistants will hold meetings at the various branches this week, following conclusion of a four-day conference here Friday. Details of marketing and merchandising plans discussed here by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, and other home office executives will be passed on to branch managers and their staffs at the forthcoming sessions.

Beaver-Beard's Birthday

Monty Woolley will celebrate tomorrow the 20th anniversary of his beard, known as "Lord Beaver," at a luncheon at the 21 Club at which several of the nation's bearded gentlemen will join Woolley. Among the guests will be Jo Davidson, Rex Stout, Bennett Cerf (beardless), Cole Porter (beardless) and Santa Claus. Woolley is in New York for the opening of his new film, Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," Tuesday evening, at the Astor.

Siritzky in Deal

A distribution agreement involving four French films has been concluded between G. C. T. Distributors Ltd. of London, and Siritzky International, whereby the British firm will distribute Pagnol's "Marius", "Fanny", "Caesar" and "Nais" throughout the United Kingdom and Eire for Siritzky.

Columbus Runs Raised

Columbus, O., Dec. 7.—Downtown theatres have increased Saturday, Sunday and holiday evening prices to 70 cents from 65 cents.

Sam Hornstein Dies

Samuel Hornstein, father of Joe Hornstein, theatre supply dealer, here, died here of a heart attack at the weekend.

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New Mexico Owners Affiliate with TOA

Artesia, N. M., Dec. 7.—Theatre Owners Association of New Mexico voted to affiliate with the Theatre Owners of America at a meeting which was addressed by Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, here from New York.

The New Mexico organization endorsed TOA's Ascap and 16mm. programs and pledged full cooperation with the national group.

ITO of Delaware Elects Derrikson

DOVER, Del., Dec. 7.—William B. Derrickson, Avenue Theatre, Rehoboth, Del. was elected president of the new Independent Theatre Owners of Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland at a meeting at which members decided not to affiliate with any national organization.

A. Joseph DeFiore, Park Theatre, Wilmington, former MPTO president, was elected chairman of the board of the new ITO.

Other officers elected include: vice-president, Muriel Schwartz, Capitol, Dover; secretary-treasurer, Calvin Ball, Shore Theatre, Milford; and directors DeFiore, John Fox, Marsh Gollner, Reese Harrington, Sam Mellits, Herman Purnell and Raymond Todd, Salisbury, Md.

Kurk Heads Theatre Group in Ottawa

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—Annual meeting of the Ottawa District Theatre Managers Association here elected John Kurk, Imperial Theatre, president; Ernie Warren, Elgin Theatre, vice-president, and Frank Gallup, Globe Theatre, secretary.

A resolution was passed urging authorities to lift the current restrictions to allow additional lighting for theatres.

A. & S. Lyons Expands

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7. — Arthur Lyons, head of A. and S. Lyons Agency, and an Eagle-Lion producer, is negotiating with talent executives Danny Winkler and Nat Wolff to join the agency's staff. Expansion is also under way in the company's New York office, where George Freedley will head the play department, and in the London branch.

New Export Firm

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—Swift-Way Enterprises has been formed here. Owned and managed by John J. Richards, son of E. V. Richards of Paramount-Richards Theatres, it will export to South America. The company will handle both film and equipment.

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News Briefs . . .

AT the annual Monogram International board of directors' meeting here at the weekend, Steve Broidy was reelected chairman of the board, and Norton V. Ritchey was again named president. Other officers reelected include: J. Peter Friedhoff, vice-president; George D. Burrows, treasurer; Nellie Witting, secretary; David D. Horne, assistant treasurer and assistant secretary; G. N. Blatchford, assistant treasurer, and Barnett Shapiro, assistant secretary.

Members of the board are: Broidy, Ritchey, W. Ray Johnson, Burrows, Horne, Friedhoff, Edward Morey and William B. Jaffe.

Canadian Film Board Faces Investigation

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—It is understood that a demand may be made in the coming session of Parliament, which opens here on Dec. 5, for the establishment of a special committee to examine the operations of the National Film Board of Canada.

In the last session it was disclosed that operations of the board since its inception cost Canadian taxpayers $7,179,739, and that the NFB operates itself or jointly with provincial governments and organizations, some 169 film circuits necessitating the full employment of 80 field representatives.

Protest Canadian Ban on Motion Picture Equipment

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—American and Canadian film equipment executives have visited Canadian government officials to protest against the import restrictions imposed on motion picture equipment in the government's American dollar-saving program.

Some of the delegates reported a "friendly and sympathetic hearing" had been given by officials of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Will Return Ticket Tax To Town's Theatregoers

COMPTON, Cal., Dec. 7.—This town's theatres have started to refund $29,000 collected in the past two years under a local two-cent tax ordinance which has been repealed by the Council following a referendum secured by the Tower Theatre with the support of a popular petition. During the period Compton theatres issued refund coupons to all theatregoers, now redeemable. It is estimated that these average $5.50 per person. Funds unclaimed after 30 days will be given to city trustees to be used for any civic charity.

Schlaifer, Wometco Chiefs Talk 'Agreement' Plans

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, left here over the weekend for Miami to set up advertising-publicity plans with Wometco Theatres executives for the three-theatre premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Gentleman's Agreement" on New Year's Day. Picture will open at the Miami, Lincoln and Cameo Theatres there.

Warshauer with Blumenfeld

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—Allen Warshauer of the Warner Hollywood office has left that post to take over the district managership of the East Bay Blumenfeld theatres here.

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE at Washington said at the weekend that it is deleting from 1947 corporate tax returns the question of whether corporations had distributed at least 70 per cent of their earnings to stockholders, and that it wanted to make clear that the Bureau had always used the 70 per cent figures "as a convenient method of selecting corporation income tax returns for examination" and not as a measure of liability.

Commissioner George J. Schoeneman said that in determining whether surplus is retained for business purposes or to enable stockholders to avoid personal income taxes, the Bureau had always given due consideration to "the judgment of the corporation's own management."

Eight Paramount Executives Back from Chicago Meeting

Eight Paramount home office executives returned to New York on Friday following a three-day conference in Chicago with company-affiliated theatre representatives on advertising problems and campaigns. Back at their desks are: Charles M. Reagan, Leonard Goldenson, Paul Raibourn, Edward L. Hyman, Leon D. Netter, Robert M. Weitman, Stanley Shuford and Ben Washer. Curtis Mitchell spent the weekend in Kansas City and will return to New York today. Sid Mesibov went to Hollywood for studio conferences.

Stockholder Cites Alleged Profits in 'U' Stock Deals

In an amended complaint filed in New York Federal Court, here, at the weekend, Universal minority stockholder Stephen Truncale, who is suing the company and five of its directors for alleged improper stock deals, charges that profits made by "U" officials in the deals he has cited are as follows: Nate J. Blumberg, $12,500; J. Cheever Cowdin, $67,500; Charles D. Prutzman, $8,200; the late Clifford Work, $75,000, and William A. Scully, $49,375.

$279,156 Six-Month Profit Rise for Rank's B. and D.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—J. Arthur Rank's British and Dominions Films, controlling Denham and Pinewood studios, here, had a profit increase of 69,789 pounds ($279,156) for the past six months on a profit total of 172-665 pounds ($690,660) for the period. Previous six months' profit was 102-876 pounds ($411,504). Profits for the last six months, however, include the full year's figures for various B. and D. subsidiaries.

Schepps Replaces O'Donnell As Chief of Texas Variety

DALLAS, Dec. 7. — Julius Schepps has been elected chief barker of the Variety Club of Texas, succeeding William O'Donnell. Fred Hoenscheidt was elected first assistant chief barker; P. E. Wilson, second assistant, and Duke Clark, prop-master. Harold Schwartz was re-elected treasurer. Named delegates to the national convention were J. B. Underwood and Lloyd Rust. Don Douglas and Roy Litsey are alternates.

Production Level Up as Five Start

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.—Production level rose to 35 at the weekend, against 34 in the previous week, with shooting starting on five pictures and four others going to cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "A Foreign Affair," Paramount; "Gallant Blade," "Best Man Wins" and "Port Said," Columbia; "Guns of Wrath," RKO-Radio.

Shooting finished on "The Fuller Brush Man," Columbia; "Thunder in the Forest," Republic; "Deep Water," 20th Century-Fox; "Casbah," Universal-International.

MPF Trustees Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

men of the various committees which operated at the New Orleans conference have been invited to the current meeting, Barney Balaban, chairman of MPF's temporary coordinating committee, announced at the weekend. These include Ted R. Gamble, chairman of the scope committee; Leonard Goldenson and Harry Brandt, co-chairmen of the organization committee; "Chick" Lewis, public relations committee chairman. Max A. Cohen, chairman of the New York area unit, and Louis A. Novins, assistant to Balaban, also will attend. The following area trustees attend:

Si Fabian, Albany; William K. Jenkins, Atlanta; Ed Fay, proxy for M. J. Mullin, Boston; Max Yellen, Buffalo; Ben Strozier, proxy for H. F. Kincey, Charlotte; A. Schoenstadt, Chicago; Ralph Kinsler, proxy for Allen S. Moritz, Cincinnati; John Rowley, Dallas; Charles R. Gilmour, Denver; A. H. Blank, Des Moines; Earl J. Hudson and Carl Buermele, Detroit.

Also: Trueman Rembusch, Indianapolis; J. A. Becker, Kansas City; Paul Williams, Los Angeles; M. A. Lightman, Memphis; Harold Field, proxy for William Elson, Minneapolis; Dr. Jacob Fishman, New Haven; E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Sam Rinzler, New York; R. R. Livingston, Omaha; Jay Emanuel, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; Ray A. Grombacker, Portland; Sam Gillette, Salt Lake City; Irving Levin, proxy for Jerry Zigmond, San Francisco; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis; A. Julian Brylawski, Washington.

Also the following distributor trustees: Gradwell Sears, United Artists; Walter Titus, Jr., Republic; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox; Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio; Jack Cohn, Columbia; Leopold Friedman, M-G-M; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal; Balaban, Paramount; Arthur Krim, Eagle-Lion.

Grand Jury Indicts 10

(*Continued from page 1*)

be given an opportunity to post bond guaranteeing their appearance here for arraignment and trial.

Of the 10 witnesses, eight were indicted on two counts—refusal to answer the question concerning Communist Party affiliation and refusal to answer concerning union membership. They were: Albert Maltz, Dalton Trumbo, Samuel Ornitz, Ring Lardner, Jr., Herbert Biberman, Adrian Scott, Lester Cole and Alvah Bessie.

The two others, Edward Dmytryk and John Howard Lawson, were indicted on one count only, refusal to answer concerning party membership.

Maximum penalty on each count of contempt is one year's imprisonment and a fine of $1,000.

Cite 'Writers Mobilization'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense was among the scores of organizations listed here by the Civil Service Commission as being considered subversive by Attorney General Tom Clark.

UK Authorized to Draw on Loan Again

Washington, Dec. 7.——The U. S. has authorized Britain to resume drawing on the remaining $400,000,000 of her $3,750,000,000 loan. The balance has been frozen since last August. The loan originally was scheduled to last two to three years but Britain withdrew $3,350,000,000 in the first 13 months.

The Treasury said the freeze was lifted under an understanding that Britain "need not adhere strictly" to the terms of the loan agreement which provided she would freely convert all sterling into dollars and not discriminate against U. S. products.

U. A. Owners

(*Continued from page* 1)

as a very strong likelihood. It is indicated that Semenenko's bids are not "firm offers," but appear to be contingent upon the raising of a minimum of $5,000,000 for financing immediate UA operations in addition to the cash purchase price.

Semenenko is understood to be acting on behalf of Robert R. Young who, in turn, is said to be planning a merger of his Eagle-Lion with U.A., if the latter company is acquired. Young is reported to have made an additional loan of $1,000,000 on behalf of E-L from the First National of Boston recently and, with $11,000,000 required for purchase and immediate financing of U.A., plus previous E-L bank loans estimated at $7,000,000, the bank would be in the picture to the tune of $19,000,000. Observers appear to feel the bank would not be inclined to participate to that extent.

UA By-Passed

(*Continued from page* 1)

production and other obligations before it will consider implementing the proposal.

Meanwhile, Sir Wilfred Eadie has approached Rank, in behalf of 20th Century-Fox, for clarification of the position of Gaumont British, GCF subsidiary, under the proposal. Twentieth-Fox holds considerable stock in Metropolis Bradford Trust which controls GB.

Meanwhile, Rank has announced that a statement is being prepared by him on the GCF-Odeon position. Following its publication, he said, a meeting of all Odeon shareholders will be called.

Harry Warner Award

(*Continued from page* 1)

the feeling and generosity of the American people. I am sure that no other humanitarian appeal in history ever had such a quick and tremendous response.

"As important as food," said Warner, "is the providing of truth and moral courage. The example of progressive working democracy is the strongest of basic forces for world peace," he declared. "The problem is to make it understood and believed."

Reviews

"Tycoon"

(*RKO Radio*)

Hollywood, Dec. 7

THE names of John Wayne, Laraine Day, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Judith Anderson and James Gleason give an exhibitor playing this Technicolor production quite a deck of drawing cards to deal from, and when the picture gets along toward its spectacular final passages it gives the customers their money's worth in thrills. Prior to that it rises to a couple of individual crises which have similar effectiveness, but in the long stretches of the background love story it is pretty obviously fabricated and hard to go along with. However, over all, it figures to do well on the strength of the action passages, which rate with the best.

The story, a script by Borden Chase and John Twist, from a novel by C. E. Scoggins, concerns an American engineer who has taken a contract to build a railroad in South America for a very rich man with a very beautiful daughter and a will of iron. Wayne, the engineer, incurs the rich man's wrath by winning his closely guarded daughter and marrying her, in a sort of shot-gun ceremony ordered by her parent, after which the rich man tries to prevent the engineer's fulfilling his building contract on schedule, evidently by way of trying to break up the marriage. The struggle changes the engineer from a happy character to a driver of men, and the bride finally leaves him to return to her father, but when a torrent threatens a bridge which the engineer has built, instead of a tunnel the rich man ordered which has cost some lives in attempted construction, everybody joins forces to make the bridge safe, and everybody winds up friends.

Stephen Ames produced the picture, lavishly, and Richard Wallace directed it, doing a much better job on the outdoor scenes than on the scenes indoors. An early incident, in which the hero, drunk, follows the heroine into church and conducts himself flirtatiously to achieve her acquaintance, can offend the sensitively religious.

Running time, 126 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Tender Years"

(*Alson—20th Century-Fox*)

IN these times of stress, it is agreeable for a film to turn back nostalgically to a period that was both serene and reassuring.

Set in the 1880's, "The Tender Years" tells the tale of a small town minister who loved his family, enjoyed fishing, and held strongly to a conviction that cruelty to dogs, as embodied in pitfights, was bestial. After a long screen absence, Joe E. Brown returns to play the serious role of the minister. Brown plays it straight all the way and endows it with a glow of warmth. Rounding out the cast are Richard Lyon as the young son, Noreen Nash and Charles Drake. Sincere and unpretentious, the production is an excellent choice for the family trade. Small towns should take it to their bosoms.

Some tense and exciting scenes of dog-fights come to life in the picture. One of the animals, a boxer, runs away and is adopted by young Lyon. The dramatic conflict arises when the former owner of the dog wants to return it to the savagery of the pit. Brown rescues the animal and prepares to face trial for theft. Events which follow vindicate Brown's faith in the basic good of his fellow man. Though the story is mainly concerned with the relationship of Brown and his son to the dog, a romantic angle between Drake and Miss Nash is threaded through.

An Alson Production, presented by Edward L. Alperson, Harold Schuster directed, with Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., as associate producer. Jungmeyer also wrote the original story and collaborated with Arnold Belgard on the screenplay.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"To Live in Peace"

(*Times Film Corp.*)

VERY much in the tradition of "Open City" and "Shoe-Shine," Italy's film-makers send another memorable film. For in "To Live in Peace" they have a picture of unpretentious beauty, which, in a simple, yet profound way, explores one of the important issues of this age of war and peace. To the film's merit, it is by no means heavy in theme. On the contrary, it skips along lightly, with touches of mirth and overtones of horror handled with commendable merit. It deserves, and should find, exhibition beyond the limited scope of "art" houses.

The film focusses on a little Italian hilltop town during the early stages of World War II. The town is of little strategic importance to the German war machine, and so they stationed in it a lone Nazi soldier and a collaborating watchman. The people are simple peasant folk who want to live in peace and who little understand the terrible war that is raging on the outside. The situation changes, however, when two escaped American soldiers, one white and one colored, take refuge there. The events that follow result in a well-rounded film of compassion, understanding and insight. The dramatic material and occasional crescendos are handled with extreme brilliance by director Luigi Zampa.

Aldo Fabrizi as the bluff patriarch gives a performance not easily forgotten. Gar Moore as the white "GI" and John Kitzmiller as the Negro, offer fine contributions. Mirella Monti as the peasant girl is pristine and touching. A Lux-Pao Film, Carlo Ponti produced.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification.

M. H.

SRO Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Scanlon, vice-president of Vanguard Films, and Paul MacNamara, vice-president in charge of public relations for all Selznick enterprises. From SRO will be Milton Kusell, Sidney Deneau and Robert M. Gillham, and the following division and district managers: Edward Fontaine, Henry Krumm, Sam Horowitz, John Howard, Charles M. Wiener, Tom Duane, Sol Krugman, Joe Oulahan, A. J. Delcambre and Herbert Kaufman.

During the sessions, at which Agnew will preside, sales policies on pictures to be released by SRO in 1948 will be discussed and delegates will view the following recently completed pictures: "The Paradine Case," "Portrait of Jennie" and "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," the latter made by RKO Radio for SRO release.

"The Paradine Case" will be the first Selznick production to get a new type of SRO radio exploitation which has been in development over the past three years, MacNamara, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, announces. Emphasis will be on local promotion because while Hollywood-originating "plugs" are effective, they are said to be insufficient in the present highly-competitive market.

Jackson Pk. Ruling

(*Continued from page* 1)

of Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois here last week that court actions would follow any introduction of simultaneous runs in Chicago, on the ground that the practice would defeat the purpose of the Jackson Park suit. It is understood that defendants believe any such actions will be necessary before any reliable interpretations of the Jackson Park decree can be had.

It is generally accepted that clearance on individual picture runs has not been outlawed by the decree and will be continued. Distributors are uncertain whether the decree makes competitive buying mandatory, but may proceed with it, as with other uncertainties, if for no other purpose than ultimately getting a court interpretation and ruling for guidance.

Two Tests Loom

(*Continued from page* 1)

conquered" to the Jackson Park on the ground the picture is not in general release and, therefore, is not subject to the court decree. In the case of the "Amber" booking, spokesmen for 20th-Fox said the advance price scale was voluntary on the part of the exhibitor who, in addition, is not a defendant in the Jackson Park suit. The company contends the decree is not violated under those circumstances.

Ascap-Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

punishable by fine and imprisonment, in addition to damages.

The Ascap representatives also said that if the plan were to be carried out all participants would be subject, in addition, to conspiracy charges. They reiterated that, on the basis of news reports of the Allied proposal, there was no prospect that the Society would approve a request from Allied to forego suits against Allied members who refuse to enter into new licenses with Ascap and withhold music taxes pending the determination of legal and legislative tests of Ascap activities.

OT REMOVE

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST F
NEW YORK, N. Y.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 111 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

German Zone Reopened to Competition

MPEA, Eagle-Lion, 8 German Firms Licensed

BERLIN, Dec. 8.—With the granting of permission to the Motion Picture Export Association, Eagle-Lion of London and eight German companies, film distribution on a competitive basis has been revived in the U. S. zone of Germany, the Military Government announced today. Private operation will begin Feb. 1.

Block booking, blind selling and "dumping" are expressly prohibited, according to Col. Gordon E. Textor, director of the Information Control Division.

While supervising an "orderly transition" in the interim, the Military Government will continue supervision over the type of film to be made and

(*Continued on page* 4)

Allow Schine Case Briefs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The U. S. Supreme Court today granted Lawrence J. Carkey and several other exhibitors permission to file an *amicus curiae* brief on the side of the Government in the Schine anti-trust suit.

Argument in both the Schine and

(*Continued on page* 4)

Files $468,000 Anti-Trust Action

Los Angeles, Dec. 8.—Suit charging violation of the Federal anti-trust law, and asking $468,000 damages from Milton Arthur, Cabart Theatres and distributors, was filed today in Federal Court, here, by Dave Rector, owner of the Ebell Theatre, Long Beach.

Rector charges the defendants conspired to deprive him of product until it was "milked" by competition. He asks for an injunction to restrain the defendants from continuing the alleged discrimination.

Australia Freezes Film Remittances Up to 50 Per-cent

American film industry's dollar situation abroad tightened further yesterday with the receipt of word here from Australia disclosing a 50 per cent freeze of American film company remittances to the U. S., based on 1946 remittances, which, it is understood, stood at about $6,000,000. The freeze becomes effective on Jan. 1.

Apparently unable to sufficiently improve its monetary situation in relation to remittances of American film dollars through the previous arrangement whereby American distributors

(*Continued on page* 4)

Speculate on Canada Quota

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—Even with the opening of Parliament, film men of Canada are still at a loss to know the government's full intentions with respect to the creation of a permit-quota system for film imports in the dollar-economy program. All they have is the threat of an import limitation which is to be enforced by Kenneth W. Taylor as administrator of the new emergency import control division in the Department of Reconstruction and Supply, whose minister, C. D. Howe, has been given the gen-

(*Continued on page* 4)

MPEA Opens 2 More Countries for 16mm.

With the shipment to Holland and Hungary this week of a number of 16mm. features, the Motion Picture Export Association moved to inaugurate narrow gauge operations in those two markets.

The next two countries to be opened by the MPEA to 16mm. product will be Czechoslovakia and Poland, with other markets slated for American films later in 1948.

TOA's Financial Operation Is Set

Theatre Owners of America has laid the groundwork for its treasury operations with an arrangement by which theatre assessment collections will be sent from field units directly to the Coast office of treasurer Charles Skouras with allotments for expenses to be transmitted periodically to New York headquarters.

Robert W. Coyne, executive director, following conferences with Skouras, was in Oklahoma City yesterday to address a meeting of theatre owners and is expected back in New York in time to participate in a meeting with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, tentatively set for tomorrow. Ted R. Gamble, TOA board chairman, arrived here yesterday from Portland, Ore., to attend the meeting.

Filings of New Clearance Complaints Rise Suddenly

A sudden and unexpected spate of clearance complaints has reached the American Arbitration Association's motion picture tribunal, AAA reports here. In addition to three cases reported yesterday as having been filed through the Boston, Dallas and New Orleans arbitrators, another will be filed shortly with the Detroit arbitrator, and others are expected. In recent months only isolated complaints —few and far between—have been filed.

Apparently, some theatre operators who are dissatisfied with their clearance set-ups are deciding to rush in complaints for arbitration now that the time for U. S. Supreme Court action on the appeals in the industry anti-trust suit draws closer. It is expected that the arbitrators will experi-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Warrants Issued For 10 Indicted

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Bench warrants for the arrest of the 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers indicted by the Grand Jury here last week for contempt of Congress were sent to Los Angeles today, according to George Hitz, Assistant United States Attorney here.

When the warrants are issued, the 10 must each post a bond in Los Angeles guaranteeing their appearance here for arraignment. Should they fail to do so, Hitz added, they will be arrested and jailed. Hitz said that the arraignment here will be set for either Dec. 19 or Jan. 2.

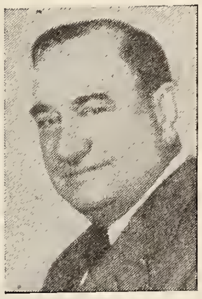
Meanwhile Rep. Edward Hebert

(*Continued on page* 3)

E. V. Richards President of Foundation

Twelve New Trustees, Executive Unit Named

E. V. Richards, Jr., head of Paramount-Richards Theatres, New Orleans, yesterday was elected first president of the Motion Picture Foundation, national industry philanthropic organization established to aid needy film workers. Election of Richards and other officers, including executive committee members and trustees-at-large, highlighted the first day of the two-day meeting of MPF trustees at the Hotel Astor here.


E. V. Richards

Other officers elected were: Harry

(*Continued on page* 4)

'Amber' Gets Rating of 'B'

"Forever Amber" yesterday was reclassified "B," from class C, by the National Legion of Decency, which issued the following statement here:

"The National Legion of Decency announces that the film 'Forever Amber,' the first production of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. to receive the C or condemned classification, has been removed from that rating and placed in the 'B', morally objectionable in part category, with the following notation and reason:

"'Revisions made in this film are

(*Continued on page* 3)

Fitzgibbons Heads New Anti-tax Group

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has been made national chairman of the National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors Associations of Canada, which is being organized to call on the Dominion govern-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

CECIL B. DEMILLE has entered the Good Samaritan Hospital, on the Coast, for a minor operation.

•

HAROLD LLOYD, a board member of the Shriners' Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, is attending a three-day hospital directors' meeting there.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, and C. JAMES BRIANT, New Orleans manager, are in town from Washington and New Orleans, respectively, for home office conferences.

•

LORETTA YOUNG, CRAIG STEVENS and his wife, ALEXIS SMITH, GRACIE FIELDS, BEATRICE LILLIE and LINDA CHRISTIANS are among passengers arriving here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

MACKINLAY KANTOR, whose novel, "Glory for Me," was translated to the screen as "The Best Years of Our Lives," has been awarded the Medal of Freedom from Gen. Spaatz, U. S. Air Force.

•

SIR HENRY FRENCH, director general of British Film Producers Association, is in New York from Mexico City and will leave for England Thursday on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

GLENN COOK, Monogram production manager, has left LaBrea Hospital, Los Angeles, following an appendectomy.

•

STACEY KEACH, RKO Radio Eastern talent director, and MRS. KEACH have become parents of a second son.

Stock Transactions Reported by SEC

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.—Jack L. Warner reported his holdings in Warner common at 427,000 shares after making a gift of 1,000 shares to the United Jewish Welfare Fund, according to the November Securities and Exchange Commission report released here.

At RKO, J. Miller Walker disposed of 1,000 warrants for RKO common, and Gordon E. Youngman disposed of 1,500 warrants. Jack Cohn, Columbia vice-president, reported holding 48,969 shares of common. His trust sold 100 shares and still holds 26,319. A. Montague, Columbia, sold 200 shares of common, and now holds 8,632 shares and 10,426 warrants.

MPA Program Delayed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Announcement of the new public relations program, including staff and budget, will be delayed until the end of the week, Motion Picture Association headquarters said here today, without any explanation of the delay. The announcement had been expected today.

News Briefs . . .

NEGOTIATIONS for the purchase of the Screen Guild franchise in Minneapolis from Joe Wolf were completed in that city by James A. Coller.

Reno Wilk, veteran distributor and North Star Films branch manager, will also manage Screen Guild branch, with Coller operating as company head at Shakopee, Minn., where he is city attorney.

Oklahoma Theatremen Meet To Weigh TOA Affiliation

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 8.—Some 126 members of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma convened here today at the Skirvin Hotel for the opening day of a two-day convention which will consider affiliation with the Theatre Owners of America. Robert Coyne, TOA executive director, will lead discussions on the proposed tie-up.

Speakers today included Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio exhibitor relations director, and Henderson Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief.

"Bishop's Wife" Opening As Benefit for Blind

"The Bishop's Wife," Samuel Goldwyn production, will open at the Astor Theatre here this evening as a benefit for The Lighthouse of the New York Association for the Blind. Notables from Hollywood and New York will comprise the audience.

Meanwhile, it was announced that Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" was considered by the Union of South Africa to be of sufficient educational value to warrant the elimination of all import duties in that country.

Arnswalder Named Head Of Bookers Club Here

Alex Arnswalder has been elected president of the New York Motion Picture Bookers Club, and Irving Kaplan and Dan Ponticello were named first and second vice-presidents, respectively.

Other officers elected include: Doris Wishman, secretary; Jean Slade, financial secretary; Etta Segall, treasurer. Trustees include Edward Seider and Jack Birnbaum, and directors are Oscar Lager, Harold Klein, Lou Wolff and George Trilling. Sergeant-at-arms is Max Fried.

Jarratt Here to Confer With Skouras, Yates and Helprin

Sir Arthur Jarratt, president of British Lion, a distribution branch of Sir Alexander Korda's operations, arrived in New York yesterday from London for an extended visit and for discussions with Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Herbert J. Yates, Republic president. Sir Arthur will talk over future distribution arrangements with both Skouras and Yates. Yesterday he had a conference on distribution with Morris Helprin, head of Korda's London Films here.

SOME 1,019 home office and theatre employes will share in Christmas bonuses to be distributed by Century Theatres, it was announced here by A. A. Hovell, company president. Payments set up include every employee who has been a member of the organization since Oct. 31, 1947; the scale ranges from $250 down to $10.

UA Board Approves Jerrold Brandt Deal

United Artists board of directors yesterday approved a deal for the distribution of "Radio Cavalcade," to be produced by Jerrold Brandt. Shooting is to begin in 30 days, with Stuart Heisler to direct. The William Morris Agency, as representative of the number of radio personalities to appear in the picture, will participate in the profits, it was said.

Allied - Monogram Franchise Holders Open 2-Day Meeting

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 8.—Allied Artists - Monogram franchise holders' meeting got under way here today at the Schroeder Hotel. Attending the two-day session from the West Coast are Steve Broidy, president, and Harold Mirisch, vice-president of Allied Artists.

Formation of Westwood Corp. Announced by John Beck

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—Formation of Westwood Corp., to make two features for Universal-International release, has been announced here by John Beck, former U-I executive. First film will be "Countess of Monte Cristo," starring Sonja Henie and Susanna Foster.

Plan Fair for Relief

A fair will be held in New York next November under the joint sponsorship of the Motion Picture Relief Fund, Hollywood, and the Actors' Fund of America, with James Sauter, a director for the American Theatre Wing, as general manager. Jean Hersholt and Frank Morgan, MPRF executives, are in New York from the Coast for conferences on the project.

Dinner for H. Rubin

In celebration of his 30 years with Paramount, Harry Rubin, chief projectionist, was given a dinner here last night at Leon and Eddie's by Paramount associates. Attending were Robert M. Weitman, Robert Shapiro, DeWitt Celsor, Harry Levine, Jack McInerney, Paul Bracco, Eugene Pleshette, Ben Griefer, Joe Basson, Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith and Aaron Nadell.

Skouras Dinner Tonight

Sypros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will be honored tonight by the New York Chapter of Hadassah, Women's Zionist organization of America, at its first annual dinner for rescue and rehabilitation to be held in the Waldorf-Astoria. Other speakers will include Louis Nizer and Rabbi Philip Bernstein.

Del Guidice Closes 3 Production Deals

LONDON, Dec. 8. — F. Del Guidice, who recently resigned from the J. Arthur Rank Organization to form his own production company, Pilgrim Players, has completed three producing agreements, one with Noel Coward for "Peace in Our Time," another with Roy and John Boulting for "Guinea Pig," and a third with Peter Ustinov for "Private Angelo."

Distribution arrangements have not been set. Minimum budget for each picture is 300,000 pounds ($1,200,000). The Boultings will start at M-G-M's Elstree studios late in January.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Katharine HEPBURN
Paul HENREID
Robert WALKER
in M-G-M's
'SONG of LOVE'
IN PERSON
LORRAINE ROGNAN
BETTY JANE WATSON
JOHNNY MORGAN

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM · JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
with KIRK DOUGLAS · RHONDA FLEMING · RICHARD WEBB

RAY MILLAND · MARLENE DIETRICH
in
"Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
In Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

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Walsh Leads 'IA' Against Taft Law

With the naming of IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh as a member of an administration committee of 30 which will set in motion the American Federation of Labor's "Educational and Political League," the "IA" has moved into the forefront of AFL's campaign to remove the Taft-Hartley Law from the national statute books, an "IA" spokesman pointed out here yesterday.

Walsh, one of the 15 AFL international presidents selected from a total of 105 to sit on the committee, discloses that a similar administration committee will be set up within the "IA" and within each individual "IA" local. The international presidents met at the weekend in Washington to plan the League's activities.

Confer on Janitor's Bid

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8.—Roy Cooper of Golden States Theatres, and Irving Ackerman, owner of two downtown houses here, are in Los Angeles for conferences with Fox West Coast and janitors' union officials on settlement of the dispute with janitors over reduction of the 48-hour work week to 40 hours at no reduction in wages.

Warrants Issued

(Continued from page 1)

(D., La.) was selected to fill the vacancy left on the Un-American Activities Committee by the resignation of Herbert C. Bonner (D., N. C.).

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 8.—While the U. S. marshall's office here was expecting warrants for arrest of the 10 indicted for contempt of Congress tomorrow or Wednesday, attorneys for the 10 notified that the Hollywood personnel would appear immediately upon service and post bond for their appearance in Washington Federal Court.

Coast Labor Still Weighs Action on Subversives

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—In separate meetings tonight the Screen Writers Guild and Screen Actors Guild executive boards continued their exploration of the possibility of arriving at common ground with other labor groups and producers for harmonious implementation of the Association of Motion Picture Producers-Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers policy on employment of subversives. The Screen Directors Guild will meet tomorrow night, while the SWG membership will hold a session next week.

Correction

MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, in an inadvertent error, described Cliff Work, former Universal studio head, as "the late" Cliff Work. Work departed Universal, but not this life, about a year ago. MOTION PICTURE DAILY regrets its error and is happy to make this correction.

Attack Indecent Films

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8.—Federal Post No. 97, American Legion, is backing the campaign of the Federation of Women's Clubs to "rid the city of indecent and obnoxious pictures."

Employment Index at Studios Shows Rise

Hollywood, Dec. 8. — Studio employment index for October rose to 97.8 from September's 93.5, according to the California Bureau of Labor Statistics. October figure compares with 106.6 for the preceding year. Average work hours per week declined from 41.7 to 40.4.

Name 33 to Dais At FJP Luncheon

Leaders in every branch of the entertainment industry will occupy the dais at the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies luncheon on Thursday at the Hotel Astor, here. Invited are: Barney Balaban, Malcolm Kingsberg, Joseph Bernhard, Ned Depinet, Ralph Poucher, William J. German, Herman Starr, Leonard Goldenson, Marcus Heiman, Jack Cohn, Walter Vincent, Al Schwalberg, Louis Nizer, George Skouras, Emil Friedlander, Emanuel Sacks, Harry Brandt, Samuel Rosen, Max A. Cohen, Herman Gelber, Solomon M. Strausberg, Edward Rugoff, Edward Schreiber, Jerry Danzig, Henry Jaffee, Abel Green, Chick Lewis.

Others on the dais will be president Norman S. Goetz and executive vice-president Joseph Willen of the Federation, Rabbi Bernard Birstein, who will deliver the invocation, and Si Fabian who will preside.

Harry Skirball, 64, Auto Accident Victim

CLEVELAND, Dec. 8.—Harry Skirball, 64, well known in both distribution and exhibition, was killed by an auto on Dec. 4 in Wilcox, Ariz., according to word received here.

Skirball was a manager for the old Educational Films and held an interest in Skirball Brothers circuit of 14 Ohio theatres with his brother, William N. Skirball. Other brothers are Jack, the producer; Joseph, on the West Coast; Ezra, with Monogram in Cincinnati, and Rudolph who is in the chemical business in Columbus.

Bryan, Reade Associate

Charles J. Bryan, for 45 years business associate of Walter Reade, Sr., circuit owner, died last Friday at his home in Chillicothe, Mo. Bryan was 64 years old. Until he became ill three years ago, he was general manager in charge of theatre operations and construction for Reade Theatres and affiliates.

'Amber' Rating

(Continued from page 1)

deemed sufficient to meet substantially the original objection of the Legion that the picture glorifies immorality. However, "Forever Amber" still lacks the adequate morally compensating values which should be present in a story of this kind.'"

The altered version of "Forever Amber" is to open today at RKO Metropolitan New York houses and at Century Circuit's Kingsway in Brooklyn and Grove in Freeport. Advanced admissions will be charged but no extra shows will be added.

Optimistic Note Is Struck by Golden

Edward A. Golden, independent producer for United Artists, struck an optimistic note for independent production yesterday, asserting that he cannot reconcile himself "to the pessimistic attitude of the worrymongers who are deploring the current state of independent production." Golden maintained that "the situation today is in no way changed from that which existed four or five years ago when I produced 'Hitler's Children.'"

Golden will leave for the Coast the latter part of this week where he will make "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven." Discussing reports that money is tight today, he said "Just come up with a good property and watch those purse-strings loosen." He praised the principle behind UA, that of giving full rein to independent producers. "There is no denying the incentive which a company like UA affords when the producer of a picture is permitted to make it according to his own design, without interference." He declared that he and Robert S. Golden, who will produce "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven," both felt strongly on this point.

Lantz Announces Lay-offs

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—In order to reduce inventory and "until the management problems of United Artists have been settled," Walter Lantz, cartoon producer, announced today, he will dismiss his creative staff for 90 days, beginning next Monday.

"WALK" WILL START TALK
about the underworld's
wildest
love affair...

"If you want to stop Frankie, you'll have to kill us both..."

Hal Wallis'
"I WALK ALONE"
It's Paramount

Aniline Disposition Upset by U.S. Rule

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The U. S. Supreme Court today upset the Government's plans to dispose of General Aniline and Film Corp., parent of Ansco, without interference.

In a case involving the Swiss Uebersee Corp., the court held that non-enemy foreigners may sue to recover property vested by the Government, although the Government has the right to introduce proof of enemy-control of that property.

If the Court had upheld the Government's contention that foreigners should not be allowed to sue, the Justice Department was prepared to go ahead with disposing of General Aniline. Now it must wait until a court decides whether General Aniline was actually enemy-controlled, or until the company agrees to let the Government dispose of its property and recover the proceeds of the sale if the courts find in its favor.

Schine Case Brief

(*Continued from page 1*)

Griffith cases is now set definitely for next Monday, to follow the court's noon decision period, a court official said. It may run over to Tuesday. depending on the length of the decision period. Two hours have been alloted to each case, with time in each case split evenly between the Government and the circuits.

Robert Wright, head of the Justice Department's motion picture anti-trust section. will argue both the Schine and Griffith cases for the Government.

Claiming injuries by operations of the Schine circuit, seven independent exhibitors have filed *amici curiae* briefs asking for a court judgment against the circuit and treble damages. In addition to Carkey, those who filed include Irving Cohen, Richard De Toto. Charles V. Martina, William C. Smalley, William Tsichkoff and Hubert P. Wallace.

Government Files Appeal Brief in Griffith Case

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Government attorneys today filed their appeal in the Griffith case, charging that undisputed facts went unnoticed by the trial court. Representatives of the Griffith circuit, the brief stated, approached independent owners to buy their theatres when the independents had licensing difficulties, and several independents sold.

Clearances

(*Continued from page 1*)

ence one of their busiest periods during the next month.

Boston complainant is Everett Rialto Theatre Corp., operating the Rialto at Everett, Mass. All major distributors but Loew's are named defendants, with the Park and Capitol theatres of Everett named as being favored by the distributors.

Dallas complainant is Lee Theatre, Teague, Tex., which applies for a reduction of its 60 days' clearance to 14. Five majors are named as defendants. Complainant also charges arbitrary refusal of licenses.

New Orleans complainant is Broadmoor Theatre, Inc., of Shreveport, La., which names the Strand, Majestic, Don and Joy theatres as being favored in clearances granted by all five. Reduction from a maximum of 60 days to 10 days is sought.

Richards MPF Head

(*Continued from page 1*)

Brandt, New York, first vice-president; Frank H. (Rick) Ricketson, Jr., Denver, second vice-president; Mitchell Wolfson, Miami, third vice-president; Barney Balaban, New York, treasurer; Jack Kirsch, Chicago, secretary.

The trustees voted an amendment to the MPF by-laws to permit 12 instead of 10 trustees-at-large (not to be confused with the distributor trustees-at-large, already named) and elected the following as such: Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president; Abram Myers, Washington; Ted Gamble, Portland; Ted Curtis, Eastman-Kodak, Rochester; Kirsch; Brandt; Hugh Bruen, California; Herman Robbins, New York; Karl Hoblitzelle, Dallas; Wolfson; Chick Lewis, New York, and Ricketson.

The following 15 were elected to the executive committee: Gamble; Bruen; William Jenkins, Atlanta; A. Schoenstadt, Chicago; Sam Gillette, Salt Lake City; W. J. Mullin, Boston; Walsh; Moe Silver, Pittsburgh; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis; Dr. Jacob Fishman, New Haven; Jack Cohn, New York; Nate Blumberg, New York; Spyros P. Skouras, New York; Leopold Friedman, New York; Ned E. Depinet, New York.

It was voted that Richards, Brandt, Balaban and Kirsch shall be members *ex officio* of the executive committee.

In an address which set the stage for the trustees meeting, Balaban, chairman of the MPF temporary co-ordinating committee, emphasized that the Foundation must do its planning on a long-time basis, and added: "We must think of the Foundation as more than a transient philanthropy. Instead, our plans should be formulated with an eye to five years from now, 10 years from now, or 20 years. We shall have our ups and downs as long as the laws of economics remain in force. Therefore, anything we do here must stand the test of time and the foreseeable fluctuations of our industry."

Balaban pointed out that the only exchange areas not yet organized under the MPF are Cleveland, Milwaukee and Oklahoma City. He recommended that a committee be appointed from among the trustees to undertake organization of the three exchanges immediately following the present meeting here.

Yesterday's meeting was resumed last night following a dinner at the Hotel Astor and continued to a late hour. It will convene again today, and possibly tonight, for discussions of a financial goal, methods of raising funds and of disbursing them to qualified industry members in need. Those subjects were not reached at yesterday's meeting.

Mundt Bill Losing Ground in the Senate

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Senate consideration of the House-approved Mundt bill to authorize the State Department's overseas information service has apparently been ruled out for this session, it was indicated today when the bill was omitted from Senator Taft's list of the special session agenda. The measure would aid U. S. film operations abroad.

The Taft list was approved by the Senate Republican policy committee.

Meanwhile, it was learned that although the Senate foreign relations committee had cut from 11 to seven the size of the advisory committee set up by the original bill, it still calls for a representative of the motion picture industry.

Fitzgibbons Named

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment for the cancellation of the Federal war excise tax of 20 per cent on theatre receipts.

Secretary-treasurer is A. J. Mason, of the Capitol Theatre, Springhill, N. S., long a leader in the independent exhibitor field, while assistant secretary-treasurer is Arch H. Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

The movement stems from last week's meeting in Toronto of representatives from all regional exhibitor groups in the Dominion and a permanent organization is proposed.

US German Zone

(*Continued from page 1*)

exhibited, including British and American product.

Col. Textor observed that better U. S. films might be sent here as a consequence of the issuance of the licenses, since it is believed that American producers have been holding back while awaiting the reopening of the German commercial market.

Heads Canada Controls

OTTAWA, Dec. 8.—J. H. Berry, president of the War Assets Corp. of Canada since July, 1945, has been named head of the capital goods import control administration established by the Canadian government to administer the new dollar-saving program, including control over motion picture equipment imports.

Canada Quota

(*Continued from page 1*)

eral authority for the control of film imports.

Word comes that the proposed regulations are to be applied by the customs and excise division of the Department of National Revenue, but there are no exact details yet.

A further step has been taken in the appointment of J. H. Berry, former president of War Assets Corp., a Crown company, as administrator of emergency regulations as they apply to imports of capital. This is an [illegible] threat in that he can prohibit the entry of U. S. funds or basic equipment when such a move will not lead to industrial establishment in Canada which would increase exports to the U. S. in relative degree to preserve the Dominion's cash position.

This is interpreted to mean that a Hollywood producer could not establish a unit in Canada unless cash returns were assured on the export of films to the States. The Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada, representing major film companies, maintains an offer to cooperate with the Canadian government with a retention of rental surplus in Canada.

Australia Freeze

(*Continued from page 1*)

agreed to invest 30 per cent of their Australian income in that country, Prime Minister Joseph B. Chifley has ordered an extension of retained remittances from the original 30 to 50 per cent. And, instead of permitting the companies to invest the money or spend it on improvements for their Australian affiliates, has ordered the 50 per cent frozen.

All of the remainder may be remitted to the U. S.

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CARTOON STRIP ADVENTURER IDOLIZED BY MILLIONS...BACKED BY ONE OF THE GREATEST SELLING CAMPAIGNS EVER!
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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V V 62. NO. 112 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1947 TEN CENTS

Allen Captures '47 Radio Poll; Crosby Second

Critics Strong for Paar, Jolson, Burrows, Too

By GENE ARNEEL

Fred Allen

For the second consecutive year, Fred Allen was voted radio's Champion of Champions, highest honor in the annual poll conducted by Motion Picture Daily for *Fame*.

The newspaper and magazine radio editors, columnists and critics of the United States and Canada who participated in this, the 12th annual poll, gave Allen a narrow margin over Bing Crosby, who shared other honors in the poll with Allen. The two made the best individual showings.

Allen also was voted Best Comedian and his Sunday night NBC show was voted the Best Comedy Show, giving him three firsts in this year's poll, exactly matching his honors in the 1946 poll.

Crosby was voted Best Popular Male Vocalist, Best Master of Ceremonies and the Film Personality Most Effective in Radio, in addition to finishing second, closely behind Allen, in the Championship division.

Last year, Crosby tied with Bob Hope for second place in the Championship category; was voted Best Popular Male Vocalist and Best Master of Ceremonies and was third as Film Personality Most Effective in Radio.

Crosby also won votes in this year's poll in the Best Musical Show category and, linked with Bob Hope and

(*Continued on page* 6)

Radio Poll Winners

Complete results of *Motion Picture Daily's* 12th annual critics' poll to name Radio's Champions are published on Page 7 of this issue. Photographs of first place winners appear on Page 6.

UA Threatens Suits To Assure Delivery; Hits Its 'Maligners'

United Artists has instructed counsel to proceed against Cagney Prod., Howard Hawks and Enterprise to compel delivery of pictures in compliance with contracts held with the company, Gradwell L. Sears, U. A. president, said yesterday in a sharply worded statement issued for publication.

Sears said that U. A. also "will proceed against" Warner Bros. if reports are substantiated that Cagney's "Time of Your Life" is being delivered to Warners for distribution. The completed Cagney picture, Sears said, constitutes "an unfulfilled contractual obligation" of the Cagneys to U. A.

He said that Hawks's "Red River," also completed and undelivered, "is firmly committed" to U. A. by contract, and that Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph," which is believed to be

(*Continued on page* 4)

TOA Resumes Ascap Negotiations Today

The music licensing negotiating committee of Theatre Owners of America is scheduled to hold its third meeting today with officials of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers in its continuing attempt to obtain theatre licensing rates considerably less than those presently proposed by Ascap to become effective on Feb. 1.

Little progress has been made by

(*Continued on page* 4)

CBS To Sell 20 Years Of Scripts to Films

Columbia Broadcasting will offer for sale to Hollywood producers scripts which it has used over the past 20 years for film production. The ephemeral nature of broadcasts prevents film companies' adequate appraisal of radio material, it was said. CBS consequently has its scripts in bound volumes and will pass them around to potential Hollywood customers.

Okla. Unit Reelects Morris Loewenstein

Oklahoma City, Dec. 9.—Theatre Owners of Oklahoma in the closing session of its two-day meeting here today reelected Morris Loewenstein president for 1948. Attendance hit 137.

Other officers named were: Ralph Talbot, secretry - treasurer; Max Brock, first vice-president; J. H. Guffin, board chairman; Harry Lowenstein, named member of the Theatre Owners of America board, and C. B. Akers, TOA legislative committee member. The organization formally voted affiliation with TOA following an address by Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the TOA.

The Oklahoma owners closed their convention with a banquet following the adoption of a resolution indorsing TOA's efforts to reduce music license rates but reserved the right to reject any rates agreed upon between TOA

(*Continued on page* 4)

Know What Makes Radio Critics Like That? Radio!

Radio, according to the critics who aired their opinions in Motion Picture Daily's 12th annual poll for *Fame*, remains afflicted with its ancient ills.

In the order in which they were most frequently mentioned in the ballots, the air-wave ailments are: too many commercials, especially singing ones; too many crime and mystery shows; too few opportunities for new talent and ideas; too few public service and educational programs; too many programs alike and too many inferior scripts.

There is a lot more about radio that critics don't like but those are

(*Continued on page* 6)

Nelson To Leave Post With SIMPP Jan. 31

Hollywood, Dec. 9.—Donald M. Nelson today announced his resignation from the presidency of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, effective Jan. 31.

In explaining that he had previously denied reports of his resignation because "certain principals [presumably of the SIMPP executive committee] were not here," Nelson declared: "For some time now I have wanted to devote myself to other business interests, both in and outside the United States."

$10 Millions Stands As MPF's Goal

Committee Can Lower or Raise Amount, However

At the conclusion yesterday of the Motion Picture Foundation trustees' two-day initial meeting at the Hotel Astor here the organization's philanthropic sights were still trained on the $10,000,000 fund goal envisioned at the organizational meeting in New Orleans a year ago, with a five-year period tentatively stipulated for raising that sum.

In the interim, however, a special Foundation fund is expected to be established to aid cases in need of immediate assistance, it being the plan to release none of the money in the general fund until the end of five years.

Yesterday the trustees set up three committees which will frame permanent policies on financing and disbursement of funds, and they will report to the trustees on March 16-18 at another meeting to be held here.

Upon attainment of the general fund

(*Continued on page* 4)

Mann's 24 Houses May Go to Lippert

San Francisco, Dec. 9.—Robert L. Lippert is understood to be negotiating for George Mann's Redwood Theatres circuit of 24 Northern California houses, with a deal seen consummated by Jan. 1. Mann is said to be eager to unload the circuit, the only hitch being his unwillingness to sell outright. He wishes to remain the landlord in most instances.

Purchase would put Lippert in possession of approximately 50 theatres with several drive-ins under construction. Lippert was recently balked at the last minute in the purchase of Golden State Circuit for $15,000,000.

Producer Interest In Theatres Grows

Accelerated interest in the acquisition of showcases in key cities around the country by or in behalf of independent producers is further evidenced by plans drawn by City Investing Co., of New York, which now has extensive theatre holdings, by David

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

ANDREW W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago for talks on the Jackson Park decision. He will be joined there today by W. C. GEHRING, assistant general sales manager, and SAM SHAIN, exhibitor relations chief.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager, are in Chicago from New York for a Midwest district branch managers meeting.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, and JACK L. WARNER, JR., are due in Cincinnati today from here for a meeting with Central district branch managers.

•

RUTH FREEMAN, formerly of United Artists' exchange here, has been appointed office manager of Masterpiece Productions' home office by JULES WEILL, president.

•

MARTIN STARR, commentator, will address the Brooklyn Inter-Faith Alliance tomorrow on "Hollywood's Impact on Young Emotionalities," to combat juvenile delinquency.

•

L. J. KAUFMAN, Warner Theatres executive, has left here for Cleveland and is expected back in New York next week.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, left here yesterday for Atlanta en route to Mexico City.

•

WILLIAM PINE, Paramount producer, will head back to the Coast today from New York.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN has cancelled a planned trip abroad and will leave here for the Coast next Monday.

•

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer, will leave here today for the Coast.

First Script Ready For Industry Series

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—First script has been completed in the Hollywood short series being sponsored jointly by the Motion Picture Association, the Academy, Hollywood guilds, and others, an MPA official said here today. It was also revealed that a revolving fund had been set up by the producers to finance production of the series. First script presents an overall picture of the industry, it was said, covering production, distribution and exhibition.

Meanwhile, possibility that the MPA "Screen Editorial" series—of which "Power Behind the Nation" was the first—might be dropped, was indicated when the MPA official decleared that work "might" begin on a second after Jan. 1.

News Briefs

EXECUTIVES of the recently-united Cinecolor and Film Classics have arrived in New York from Hollywood for a week of conferences on the latter's production plans.

Conferees will be A. Pam Blumenthal, Cinecolor executive; Joseph Bernhard, FC president; A. Pam Blumenthal, Jr.; Peter Mayer, ARPI Productions executive, whose company is making "For You I Die" for FC release; Karl Herzog, FC treasurer, and others.

SRO Selects 30 Cities For Building 100 'Dream Houses'

Thirty cities have been selected by Selznick Releasing Organization as sites for building over 100 "dream houses" in connection with promotion of SRO's "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House."

Construction of the houses, which will be replicas of the house used in the film, will take place over the next six months, and they will be put on public display at least one month before release of the film, which is scheduled for next June.

Selznick 'Paradine Case' Booked for Music Hall

David O. Selznick's "The Paradine Case," directed by Alfred Hitchcock, has been booked by Radio City Music Hall here to follow the current run of "Good News," G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of the theatre, announces. The first Selznick film to be set for the Music Hall since "Rebecca," in 1940, it will probably start its run on Jan. 8 or Jan. 15.

Loew Executives, Staffers Pledge Aid to FJP Drive

Financial aid in the amusement drive to raise $325,000 for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York this year was pledged here yesterday at a rally of Loew executives and employes in the company's home office.

The appeal for funds was led by Si Fabian, head of the FJP's amusement division. Chairman of the rally was J. Robert Rubin, Loew vice-president.

SOPEG Wins $5 Raise

Some 111 "white collar" employes at the Eagle Lion-Producers Releasing Corp. home office here have been awarded $5 across-the-board increases, retroactive to Nov. 1, under a wage reopening negotiated by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, UOPWA-CIO, the union announced yesterday. The union also disclosed that it is moving its office today to 110 West 52nd Street, New York.

Producers at Video Meet

Ernest Marx, general manager of DuMont television receivers and chairman of the Television Broadcasters Association's executive committee on affiliates, will preside at a meeting of TBA today. Film producers and raw stock manufacturers are among members of the affiliates committee and will be represented at the meeting.

McDonough Hits Hollywood Critics

Washington, Dec. 9.—California Representative Gordon L. McDonough told the House today that neither the picture industry nor Hollywood should be condemned because "of the few who are always seeking the public limelight."

McDonough said that Hollywood consisted predominantly of "substantial, home loving, good, sound Americans," and that many of these are identified with the motion picture industry."

MPA Warns Against Attacks from Reds

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Motion Picture Association today warned the U. S. public to be on the watch for a Kremlin-inspired attack on the U. S. film industry.

"Communist Russia hates American films because they reflect American life and its freedoms and advantages in contrast to the Soviet police state," the MPA said in a statement issued by Joyce O'Hara, executive assistant to president Eric Johnston. Some industry officials here regarded the O'Hara statement as a possible opening gun in the MPA's public relations program.

Johnston is in Chicago today attending a board meeting of United Airlines. He is due back tonight or tomorrow.

N.Y. Censor Rejects Outsiders' Views

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 9.—Motion picture division of the New York State Education Department has denied a request that individuals and groups be given the right to express views on pictures before the division's decision on the issuance of licenses for them. In reply to such a request from Monsignor John Randall, of Rochester, State Education Commissioner Francis Spaulding said the practice would be impracticable and would "represent contravention of the law."

Doyle in Charge of New Selznick Branch

SEATTLE, Dec. 9.—Selznick Releasing Organization will open a branch soon in Portland in the new J. T. Sheffield Building, Herbert Kaufman, West Coast district sales manager, announces. Larry Doyle will be the Portland representative.

Oestreicher Dies

Funeral services for Henry Oestreicher, veteran exhibitor and member of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, will be held here tomorrow at Riverside Memorial Chapel. Oestreicher died Monday following an extended illness.

Newsreel Parade

THE crisis in France and violence in Palestine are highlights in current releases. An atomic story, fashions and football are among items that round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 30—French crisis points up East-West conflicts on the Marshall Plan. Tension mounts in Palestine. Atomic development story. Fashions. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 228—Holy war in Palestine. Red sabotage stirs France to action. New proving-ground for atom. Trolley school. Friendship food cargo starts overseas. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 31—Joe Walcott's claim to heavyweight title denied. Violence in Palestine. France: Government demands showdown. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 58—Friendship food off for Europe. Strike disorders in Paris. Germans wait on line for life's necessities. Sudden violence floods Spain. Football. High school grid classic.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 33—Football. French government battles strikers. Friendship food off to Europe. All-American football team.

Indicted 10 May Fight Extradition

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Strong possibility that the 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers indicted by the Grand Jury here for contempt of Congress will fight a Washington trial was revealed here today.

It was indicated that the 10 would fight extradition and demand a trial in California on the constitutionality of the questions asked by the Committee on Un-American Activities. The 10 were cited for contempt when they did not answer committee questions concerning their union or political affiliation.

Meanwhile, bench warrants for their arrest have been sent to the U. S. marshal's office in California. The 10 are expected to post bond in Los Angeles guaranteeing their appearance, but to claim that the certified copies of the indictment sent to the California office do not charge a crime, and hence to ask for a trial there on constitutionality.

Woolley's Beard in Goldwyn's Luncheon

Publishers, newspaper film critics, trade paper editors and other ulcer cases were guests at a luncheon at 21 Club here yesterday given by Lynn Farnol, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn, in observance of the 20th anniversary of Monty Woolley's beard. Both, beard and Woolley, that is, are featured in "The Bishop's Wife," which had its premiere at the Astor Theatre last night.

The luncheon guests were furnished with chin falsies, except in the cases of Woolley, Jo Davidson, sculptor, and Rex Stout, author, who appeared wearing the real thing(s). Wearers of the falsies had difficulty straining minestrone and chicken hash through the chin foliage, with the result that the tab was kept to modest proportions, in keeping with the times.

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XMAS IS IN THE BAG!

ever there was a picture perfectly med to bring the folks fast-paced heer at this holiday season it's I-G-M's "GOOD NEWS," brim-ing over with music and merri-ent, love and laughter, youth, tal-nt, beauty. Yes, it's got everything or young and old and in between!

Now playing to packed audiences at Radio City Music Hall! Hundreds of theatres will play it simultaneously at New Years!

"GOOD NEWS"

JUNE
ALLYSON
PETER
LAWFORD
PATRICIA MARSHALL · JOAN McCRACKEN
RAY McDONALD · MEL TORME
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
Screen Play by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
Based on the Musical Comedy by Lawrence Schwob, Lew Brown, Frank Mandel, B. G. DeSylvo and Ray Henderson
Directed by **CHARLES WALTERS**
Produced by **ARTHUR FREED**

"M-G-M's XMAS GIFT TO NATION's SCREENS!" —*Coast Variety*

"It should have field day at boxoffice . . ." —**Exhibitor**

"Should mount into king-size boxoffice figures." —**Film Daily**

"Boxoffice appeal indicates hearty grosses . . . should click with all type audiences . . . carefree escapist entertainment." —**Variety (*Weekly*)**

" 'Good News' is good news!" —***Ager,* PM**

"Exhibitors and public alike will be mighty thankful for this wonderful entertainment." —**Coast Variety**

"Gay and speedy . . . 'Good News' is just that for entertainment seekers." —***Cameron,* N. Y. Daily News**

"Gay, festive . . . entertains all the way." —***Conrad,* N. Y. Mirror**

"Brightly tinted and aggressively exuberant." —***Barnes,* N. Y. Herald Tribune**

"Something for everybody...bright movie version of 'Good News'." —***Crowther,* N. Y. Times**

"Audience attraction which will render a good account of itself." —**Motion Picture Daily**

"A happy attraction for the holiday season." —**Showmen's Trade Review**

N. Y. 1st-Run Revenue High

Wet and dismal weekend was no help, of course, but regardless of that New York's first runs are doing very well this week.

The Music Hall has its annual Christmas stage show, including the Nativity Pageant, along with "Good News," and business from Thursday through Sunday hit a robust $81,000, promising about $133,000 for the week. "Golden Earrings," supported by Ray McKinley's orchestra on stage, is big at the Paramount, with a first week's take of $85,000 indicated.

"This Time for Keeps," with Paul Whiteman's orchestra on stage, figures to do $63,000, which is good enough, in a first week at the Capitol. The Roxy yanked "Thunder in the Valley" to bring in "It Had to Be You" which, with Connee Boswell in person, drew a nice $38,000 on Saturday and Sunday. First week of "Captain Boycott" should bring about $20,000 to the Winter Garden. "The Bishop's Wife" had a special premiere showing at the Astor last night and will begin its regular run today. "Henry V" began another run at the Park this week, scaled at 90 cents to $1.80, on a continuous run policy.

Still in the hit class are these holdovers: "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, fourth week, $48,000; "Out of the Past," Palace, second week, $29,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, fifth week, $34,000; "Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, eighth, $30,000; "Nicholas Nickleby," Little Carnegie, second, $8,000.

Other estimated returns: "Love from a Stranger," Victoria, second week, $12,500; "Red Stallion," Gotham, second week, $10,000; "Life with Father," Warner, 17th week, $11,000; "Jezebel" and "Slight Case of Murder," Strand, second week (five days), $14,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, ninth, $24,000; "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Astor, 17th, $21,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 16th week, $5,500.

Palace to Be Decorated

RKO's Palace, first-run on Broadway, will be closed next month for an extensive alteration job. The house will be dark for about three weeks.

Set PCCITO Meet

SEATTLE, Dec. 9.—The board of trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners have scheduled a meeting for Seattle on Jan. 13-15, it was announced here today.

MPF Goal

(*Continued from page* 1)

goal at the end of five years, contributions to charitable organizations will not exceed in any one year five per cent of whatever the fund may be at that time, it was said. While it appears at present that the fund will be $10,000,000, it will be decided later whether it should be raised or lowered as a result of committee findings.

Contributions to the general fund, it was explained, will be for the most part in the form of gifts, some companies and individuals already having set aside donations. It is expected also that special benefit film premieres, theatre performances, golf tournaments in which prominent figures will participate gratis, and other affairs will be held from time to time to raise money for the general fund.

Ned Depinet, RKO Radio vice-president, yesterday was named chairman of a program-and-scope committee which will make studies and surveys of the industry and its potential needs in terms of relief and assistance. It also will formulate the program of the Foundation in the light of immediate and long-term objectives. Other members of the committee are: Ted Gamble (vice-chairman), Dr. Jacob Fishman, Chick Lewis, Max A. Cohen, Barney Balaban, Jay Emanuel, William K. Jenkins, Max Yellen and Leopold Friedman.

Second committee dealing with finance, is headed by Si Fabian, and will determine methods of fund raising and set up the financial administration of the Foundation. Other members of this committee are: Leonard Goldenson (vice-chairman), who yesterday also was elected MPF assistant treasurer, Harold Field, Spyros P. Skouras, Paul Williams, Karl Hoblitzelle, Richard F. Walsh, Ted Curtis, Albert Warner, Arthur Schoenstadt and Fred Wehrenberg.

A third committee will deal with MPF organization and administration and will include all elected officers of the Foundation. In addition, Foundation president E. V. Richards, Jr., has the right to appoint to this committee any individuals who, in his discretion, are necessary to the furtherance of organization and administration needs.

576 Theatres in New Orleans Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—There are 576 theatres with a seating capacity of 313,351 in the New Orleans territory, according to a New Orleans theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association is releasing today.

The 11th in a series of 31 directories, the New Orleans document reveals that 102 theatres with a capacity of 87,601 are in this exchange area's four largest cities: New Orleans, Shreveport, Mobile and Jackson. Some 235 theatres are located in towns with a population of 2,500 and under; these have a capacity of 86,304, or an average of 367 seats per theatre.

TOA - ASCAP

(*Continued from page* 1)

the negotiators up to now and no meetings were held during the past several weeks while Herman Greenberg, in charge of Ascap licensing, was on an extended visit to Ascap branches in the field.

Neither side predicted any definitive action at today's session, either, but some optimism was expressed.

The TOA negotiating group will include Fred Wehrenberg, Ted R. Gamble, Paul Williams, Robert Livingston, Robert W. Coyne, Herman Levy and Edward Fabian.

Skouras Cited by Hadassah for Aid

A scroll of honor, saluting his many humanitarian efforts, was awarded to Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, last night by the New York Chapter of Hadassah at its first annual dinner, held here at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The presentation was made by Mrs. Samuel Hartley, Hadassah president.

Skouras, who was honor guest at the dinner, was paid further tribute with the announcement that his name will be given to one of the principal rooms of the Hadassah University Hospital, part of the Medical Center on Mt. Scopus, outside of Jerusalem.

In addition to paying tribute to Hadassah's welfare work, Skouras also cited the contribution of the film industry to the cause of freedom and tolerance throughout the world.

Other speakers included Louis Nizer, executive secretary of the New York Film Board of Trade, and Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein.

Producer Interest

(*Continued from page* 1)

O. Selznick, who said here yesterday he hopes to move into first-run exhibition on a large-scale, and, as previously announced, by Samuel Goldwyn Productions, which seeks to obtain an "in" on first-run playing time through purchases of interests in five or six key-city houses.

Selznick reported he intends to take over from 10 to 50 first-run spots over an indefinite period of time but declined to make known specific plans regarding the acquisitions. He said he will disclose some details within a week.

City Investing now owns the Astor and Victoria here, among others, and sources close to the company report an expansion program is in work. An official of the firm said its theatre operations have been "most favorable," particularly in dealings with Samuel Goldwyn whose product generally plays the Astor here. The company is interested in first-runs exclusively and deals with independent producers.

Records Ordered in Percentage Suits

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Dec. 9.—In an order signed by U. S. District Judge Wham in Federal Court, here, John Marlow, the Grand Opera Co. and the Murphysboro Opera Co., defendants in seven percentage suits, were ordered to produce for inspection all books and records pertaining to the operations of the defendants' [illegible]ur theatres for a six-year period [illegible]or to the start of pending actions.

The order was made in actions on motions by Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers, RKO, Universal and Columbia, respectively. Theatres involved are the Annex and Marlow in Herrin, Ill., and the Liberty and Marlow in Murphysboro.

U. A. Threatens

(*Continued from page* 1)

completed, "was and is a primary consideration" of U. A.'s six-picture contract with Enterprise.

Sears said his statement was being made at the request of the U. A. stockholders and board of directors. It referred to "rumors, gossip and maligning by the industry's 'fishwives" concerning U. A., and to "unsolicited and unwelcome attention to our company through many careless statements and some malicious ones."

Sears said U. A. is "completely solvent, is operating at a substantial profit, expects to continue to do so, and has no outstanding indebtedness of any kind." He said U. A. lives up to its contracts with exhibitors and producers and expects "all others, in this country and throughout the world, to do likewise."

He said that U. A. has "engaged outstanding counsel to prosecute" any and all efforts to interfere with execution of its existing contracts.

"It appears that only in this way can the industry's jackals be frightened off," Sears' statement said. The same policy, he said, will be followed in England "or wherever else our position may be placed in jeopardy, purposefully or unintentionally."

Reelect Loewenstein

(*Continued from page* 1)

and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. (Actually TOA has steadfastly made it known that its power is limited to recommendation of acceptance of terms which it negotiates with Ascap). The Oklahoma unit denounced Ascap's announced new rates as "exorbitant," but action on means of legal remedy was "found wanting."

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MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
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This crowding of a terrific amount of light into a small area is a feature of every "National" carbon arc used in movie projection. It is called *intrinsic brilliance*. This is what makes your pictures so bright and pleasing to look at.

Furthermore, the light emitted by "National" High Intensity Projector Carbons is the closest approach to sunlight. It has a continuous spectrum and contains all the colors of the rainbow. This makes color movies glow with rich natural detail. Your theatre patrons like it—their approval shows up in the box office.

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Radio Poll

(*Continued from page* 1)

Jimmy Durante, received votes in this year's Best Comedy Team division, but failed to finish among the first three in either of these.

The radio editors and critics this year picked Jack Paar, Jack Benny's summer replacement, as Most Promising Star of Tomorrow, and put Abe Burrows in second place and Robert Q. Lewis in third in that division.

Burrows garnered votes in the Best Comedian and Best Comedy Show classifications also. While they were not sufficient to put him among the winners in those groupings, had his votes not been split they would have been sufficient to make him a winner in the Most Promising Star division.

Henry Morgan, who was voted Most Promising Star in last year's poll, apparently fulfilled his promise insofar as the critics are concerned. He finished a strong second in the Best Comedian division this year, where he was third in 1946, and his show again captured second place in the Best Comedy Show category.

Morgan Still "Hot"

Morgan's showing in the two comedy divisions placed him ahead of such leading performers as Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Ed Gardner, Red Skelton, Jimmy Durante and Edgar Bergen. In addition, Morgan, in a neck-and-neck race with Al Jolson, placed just behind Hope, who was third, in the Champion of Champions group.

Jolson, too, made a strong showing, especially when the relative newness of his radio program is considered. In addition to tying Morgan for fourth in the Championship division, Jolson was in a three-way tie for second in the Best Musical Show classification, and barely out of the money in the Best Popular Male Vocalist class. He also received ballots in the Film Personality Most Effective in Radio division and several wags, remarking "Give Him Time", voted for Jolson as Most Promising Star of Tomorrow.

Like Burrows, Jolson suffered from split ballots. Had the votes cast for him in several classifications been concentrated in one, he would have captured a first place handily.

The radio editors transferred their allegiance in this year's poll from several old-time favorites.

In winning the Film Player Most Effective in Radio classification, Bing Crosby displaced Lionel Barrymore, who had been a perennial first in that division. Fred Waring replaced the Telephone Hour as Best Musical Show.

Rise Stevens Wins

Rise Stevens, who failed to place among the first three in the Best Female Classical Vocalist division last year, was first with the critics in this year's poll.

Ken Carpenter captured first place honors in the Best Studio Announcer category from Don Wilson, last year's winner. Edward R. Murrow was far in front in the Best News Commentator or Analyst division, replacing the perennial winner, H. V. Kaltenborn, in that category.

Vaughn Monroe came up to tie Guy Lombardo, another habitual winner of other years, for first place in Best Dance Band Division.

In other categories, critics returned their old-time favorites.

The repeaters, in addition to Allen and Crosby, included Joan Davis, Best Comedienne; Fibber McGee & Molly, Best Comedy Team; James Melton, Best Male Classical Vocalist; Dinah Shore, Best Female Popular Vocalist, in a close contest with Jo Stafford; Bill Stern, Best Sportscaster; Arturo Toscanini, Best Symphonic Conductor; the New York Philharmonic, Best Symphony Orchestra; Fred Waring, Best Daytime Program; Lux Radio Theatre, Best Dramatic Program, but tied this year by Theatre Guild on the Air; Let's Pretend, Best Program for Children; Information Please, Best Quiz Show, and Truth or Consequences, Best Audience Participation show.

CBS, with an assist from Murrow, walked away again with the honors for Radio's Best News Job of the Year, and CBS's publicity service still ranks with the critics as the best among the networks.

Earle Ferris was voted the best in individual publicity service.

NBC was second in network publicity; Albert Durante and David Alber tied for second, individual class.

Radio Champions for 1947

Bing Crosby

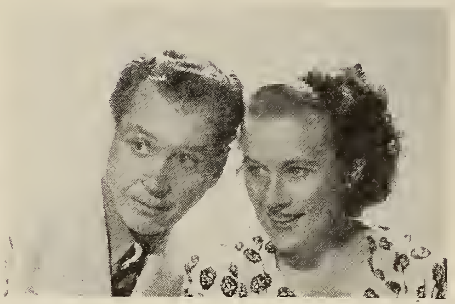
Jack Paar

Dinah Shore

James Melton

Rise Stevens

Ken Carpenter


Fibber McGee and Molly

Edward R. Murrow

Bill Stern

Arturo Toscanini

Fred Waring

Joan Davis

Vaughn Monroe

Guy Lombardo

Radio Critics

(*Continued from page* 1)

the items which irk most of them the mostest.

In the matter of commercials, many commended U. S. Steel for the manner in which it handles them on Theatre Guild programs, and quite a few find Arthur Godfrey's commercials worthy of emulation elsewhere in radio. Many critics cited Lucky Strike and Alka-Seltzer commercials as the bane of radio.

The best move radio could make, many of the critics declared, would be to put into effect the NAB code immediately. Others urged radio to stop using the Hooper rating as the industry bible and, instead, hire some showmen for the operating end.

Radio can do a great job with documentary-type sustainers, many critics believe. They commended the CBS documentaries, NBC's "Third Horsemen" and MBS's "Your Children Today" programs.

Good sustainers, they say, deserve good program time and, when so scheduled, should be kept at the same hours, "not shoved around so much."

Too often good programs are on late at night, they complain. A good program deserves a large audience but it won't get one if the average wage-slave has to sit up until midnight to hear it, say the critics.

Studio audiences annoy the critical listeners, too. Their applause is excessive; their private, unexplained hilarity is irritating.

Radio could do with better comedy programs, with more classical and less popular music, many critics feel. Others say there are too many "name" guest stars on programs who contribute little if anything other than their names.

And, networks, you want to know what to do about television? The critics suggest you develop "cooperative sponsorship on a large scale to provide bigger, better, newer programs."

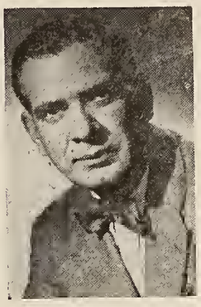
And voices from the back regions of America would like you to put popular programs on a roadshow basis so people in the sticks can stop

(*Continued on page 7*)

Winners, Runners-Up in Radio Poll

CBS's Crandall, Earle Ferris Are Tops In Vote on Best Publicity Services

George Crandall and Earle Ferris have been acclaimed as the top radio publicists, in their respective classifications, in *Motion Picture Daily's* twelfth annual radio poll for *Fame*. Columbia Broadcasting System's publicity department, headed by Crandall, was voted the best network publicity service and Ferris was voted first in individual publicity service. Ferris won the top spot in 1945, finished in a second place tie last year. CBS is a four-time winner.



George Crandall

Earle Ferris

National Broadcasting came in second in the network division in this year's poll, followed by American Broadcasting and Mutual. NBC has finished first twice since the vote on network and individual publicity services was made part of the annual poll six years ago.

In the individual division, J. Walter Thompson's radio publicity staff, headed by Albert Durante, placed second in a tie with David Alber. The Thompson company, the only agency among the winners, took first place last year.

FOLLOWING are the first, second and third place winners in the 25 classifications comprising the twelfth annual radio poll conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *for* Fame. *Voting is restricted to newspaper and magazine radio editors, critics and columnists in the United States and Canada. Sponsors, agencies, networks and program time (EST) are shown for first place winners; networks only for others.*

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

1. Fred Allen (Standard Brands—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. Bing Crosby (ABC).
3. Lux Radio Theatre (CBS).

MOST PROMISING STAR OF TOMORROW

1. Jack Paar (American Tobacco—Foote, Cone & Belding—ABC, Wednesdays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Abe Burrows (CBS).
3. Robert Q. Lewis (CBS).

BEST COMEDIAN

1. Fred Allen (Standard Brands—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. Henry Morgan (ABC).
3. Bob Hope (NBC).

BEST COMEDIENNE

1. Joan Davis (CBS co-operative show, Saturdays, 9 P.M.).
2. Gracie Allen (NBC), and Fannie Brice (CBS), tied.

BEST COMEDY TEAM

1. Fibber McGee and Molly (Johnson's Wax — Needham, Louis & Brorby — NBC, Tuesdays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Burns and Allen (NBC).
3. Abbott and Costello (ABC).

BEST MASTER OF CEREMONIES

1. Bing Crosby (Philco — Hutchins Advertising — ABC, Wednesdays, 10 P.M.).
2. Ralph Edwards (NBC), and Arthur Godfrey (CBS), tied.

FILM PERSONALITY MOST EFFECTIVE IN RADIO

1. Bing Crosby (Philco — Hutchins Advertising—ABC, Wednesdays, 10 P.M.).
2. Bob Hope (NBC).
3. Ronald Colman (Guest spots).

BEST MALE VOCALIST (Popular)

1. Bing Crosby (Philco — Hutchins Advertising — ABC, Wednesdays, 10 P.M.).
2. Perry Como (NBC).
3. Frank Sinatra (NBC).

BEST MALE VOCALIST (Classical)

1. James Melton (International Harvester — McKann-Erickson — NBC. Sundays, 2:30 P.M.).
2. Robert Merrill (NBC).
3. Lauritz Melchior (ABC).

BEST FEMALE VOCALIST (Popular)

1. Dinah Shore (Unattached).
2. Jo Stafford (NBC).
3. Ginny Simms (CBS), and Peggy Lee (ABC), tied.

BEST FEMALE VOCALIST (Classical)

1. Rise Stevens (Prudential Insurance — Benton & Bowles — CBS, Sundays, 5:30 P.M.).
2. Marian Anderson (ABC), and Lily Pons (ABC), tied.

BEST ANNOUNCER (Studio)

1. Ken Carpenter (Bing Crosby-Philco show, ABC, Wednesdays, 10 P.M.).
2. Don Wilson (NBC).
3. Harry Von Zell (CBS).

BEST NEWS COMMENTATOR OR ANALYST

1. Edward R. Murrow (CBS package program, Monday through Friday, 7:45 P.M.).
2. Lowell Thomas (CBS).
3. H. V. Kaltenborn (NBC).

BEST SPORTSCASTER

1. Bill Stern (Colgate — Sherman & Marquette—NBC, Fridays, 10:30 P.M. Also special events).
2. Red Barber (CBS) (MBS) (WHN).
3. Mel Allen (WINS).

BEST SYMPHONIC CONDUCTOR

1. Arturo Toscanini (NBC sustaining, Saturdays, 6:30 P.M.).
2. Serge Koussevitzky (ABC).
3. Leopold Stokowski (CBS).

BEST SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA

1. New York Philharmonic (Sustaining, CBS, Sundays, 3 P.M.).
2. Boston Symphony (ABC).
3. NBC Symphony.

BEST DANCE BAND

1. Guy Lombardo (unattached) tied with Vaughn Monroe (R. J. Reynolds Tobacco — William Esty — CBS, Saturdays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Tex Beneke and Xavier Cugat (both guest spots and hotel pickups), tied.

BEST DAYTIME PROGRAM

1. Fred Waring Show (American Meat Institute — Leo Burnett — NBC, Tuesday and Thursdays, 10 A.M.; Minnesota Valley Canning—Leo Burnett—NBC, Fridays, 10 A.M.).
2. Arthur Godfrey (CBS).
3. Art Linkletter's G. E. House Party (CBS), and the Paul Whiteman Club (ABC), tied.

BEST DRAMATIC PROGRAM

1. Lux Radio Theatre (Lever Brothers—J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Monday, 9 P.M.), tied with: Theatre Guild on the Air (United States Steel—Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn—ABC, Sundays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. CBS Is There and Studio One (CBS), tied.

BEST PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

1. Nila Mack's Let's Pretend (Cream of Wheat—Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn — CBS, Saturdays, 11:05 A.M.).
2. Land of the Lost (ABC), and Columbia's School of the Air (CBS), tied.

BEST COMEDY SHOW

1. The Fred Allen Show (Standard Brands — J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. The Henry Morgan Show (ABC).
3. The Jack Benny Show (NBC), and The Bob Hope Show (NBC), tied.

BEST MUSICAL SHOW

1. Fred Waring Show (General Electric—Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn—NBC, Mondays, 10:30 P.M.).
2. The Telephone Hour (NBC), Manhattan Merry-Go-Round (NBC), and Al Jolson's Kraft Music Hall (NBC), tied.

BEST QUIZ SHOW

1. Information Please (MBS cooperative, Fridays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Take It or Leave It (NBC), and Bob Hawk Show (NBC), tied.

BEST AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION SHOW

1. Truth or Consequences (Procter & Gamble—Compton — NBC, Saturdays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. People Are Funny (NBC), and Take It or Leave It (NBC), tied.

BEST 1947 NEWS JOB BY RADIO

1. CBS, Newscasts by Edward R. Murrow.
2. NBC, Texas City Disaster.
3. MBS, World Series Broadcasts.

BEST NETWORK PUBLICITY SERVICE

1. CBS.
2. NBC.
3. ABC.

BEST INDIVIDUAL PUBLICITY SERVICE

1. Earle Ferris.
2. J. Walter Thompson and David Alber, tied.

Top Networks in Close Poll Finish

Capturing 10 first-place positions in the 25 classifications comprising the 12th annual MOTION PICTURE DAILY Radio Poll, National Broadcasting Co. led the networks in the critics' 1947 balloting.

Columbia Broadcasting Co. was second with eight firsts, two of them ties; American Broadcasting Co. was third with six first-place entries, one a tie, and Mutual Broadcasting System was fourth with one first-place.

NBC was aided by Fred Allen's three first-place victories and ABC by Bing Crosby's three firsts.

NBC holds 16 second-place ratings, four of which were ties, and five third-place winners. CBS had nine seconds, four of which were ties, and six thirds, of which two were ties. ABC had eight entries in "place" position, with two ties, and four in "show" position, with two ties. MBS had no entries in the second-place division and one in third.

Radio Critics

(*Continued from page 6*)

listening at home now and then and be part of a studio audience instead.

Critical lagniappe: Give us better summer replacements; better daytime serials or replace them with dramatizations of novels or historical events; more and better dramatic efforts; more special events, sports, on-the-spot broadcasts; better children's programs; schedule educational programs at better hours.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 26	DOWN TO EARTH (Color) Rita Hayworth Larry Parks D—101 min. (930) (Rev. 8/29/47)	RETURN OF RIN TIN TIN D—67 min. (Rev. 11/12/47)	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	LOUISIANA Jimmie Davis Margaret Lindsay D—85 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/12/47)	GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (4703) (Rev. 8/28/47)		(Block 1) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (625) (Rev. 9/10/47)	(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Nov. 2	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (981) (Rev. 10/7/47)	LINDA BE GOOD Elyse Knox Marie Wilson C—66 min. (Rev. 11/29/47)	SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D—111 min. (Rev. 10/9/47)		WISTFUL WIDOW OF WAGON GAP Bud Abbott Lou Costello C—78 min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	THE FIGHTING VIGILANTES "Lash" LaRue O—61 min. (Rev. 11/17/47) T—MEN Dennis O'Keefe D	(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39)			THE FABULOUS TEXAN William Elliott O—95 min. (624) (Rev. 10/7/47)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	FOREVER AMBER (Color) Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D—138 min. (733) (Rev. 10/9/47)	MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)		THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D—83 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D—89 min. (Rev. 11/18/47)	DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D—91 min. (807) (Rev. 9/26/47)	(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)	UNDER COLORADO SKIES (Color) Monte Hale O—65 min. (652)	RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft George Brent D—90 min. (Rev. 10/29/47)	(Nov. Releases) THE EXILE Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maria Montez D—95 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D—103 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D	BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47) SHADOW VALLEY Eddie Dean O—58 min. (Rev. 12/1/47)	(Nov. Releases) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	BOWERY BUCKAROOS C—65 min. (625) (Rev. 10/20/47)		THE FLAME John Carroll Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)	CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)			
Nov. 30		MAN FROM TEXAS James Craig O	GREEN DOLPHIN STREET Lana Turner Van Heflin D—141 min. (Rev. 10/16/47)	THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D	BIG TOWN AFTER DARK Philip Reed Hilary Brooke D—69 min. (Rev. 11/17/47)	SLIPPY McGEE Donald Barry Dale Evans	(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D—102 min. (806) (Rev. 11/12/47)	(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)	(Nov. Releases) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	THE UPTURNED GLASS James Mason D—87 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)	
Dec. 7	IT HAD TO BE YOU Ginger Rogers Cornel Wilde C—98 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)		(Dec. Releases) KILLER McCOY Mickey Rooney Brian Donlevy D—105 min. (Rev. 10/27/47)	JIGGS AND MAGGIE IN SOCIETY Joe Yule Renie Riano C		THE GAY RANCHERO (Color) Roy Rogers O	DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (809) (Rev. 9/29/47)	(Nov. Release) THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (Color) Lon McCallister D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		(Reissue) ANTHONY ADVERSE Fredric March Olivia de Havilland D—138 min. (Rev. 5/11/36)
Dec. 14	DEVIL SHIP Richard Lane D BLONDIE'S ANNIVERSARY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C		GOOD NEWS (Color) June Allyson Peter Lawford D—95 min. (Rev. 12/4/47)	GUN TALK Johnny Mack Brown O			SO WELL REMEMBERED John Mills Martha Scott D—114 min. (807) (Rev. 11/29/47) WILD HORSE MESA Tim Holt O—61 min. (808) (Rev. 11/17/47)	(Dec. Releases) ROSES ARE RED Don Castle D—66 min (734) (Rev. 11/7/47)	(Bischoff) INTRIGUE George Raft June Havoc D	(Dec. Release) PIRATES OF MONTEREY (Color) Maria Montez Rod Cameron D—77½ min. (Rev. 11/14/47)	(Reissue) JEZEBEL Bette Davis D—103 min. (Rev. 3/9/38)
Dec. 21	ROSE OF SANTA ROSA Patricia White O		(Jan. Releases) TENTH AVENUE ANGEL Margaret O'Brien George Murphy D		ROAD TO RIO Bing Crosby Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—100 min. (Rev. 11/11/47)		OUT OF THE PAST Robert Mitchum D-97 min. (Rev. 11/17/47)	DAISY KENYON Joan Crawford Dana Andrews Henry Fonda D—99 min. (731) (Rev. 11/25/47)		THE LOST MOMENT Robert Cummings Susan Hayward D—89 min. (Rev. 10/14/47)	MY WILD IRISH ROSE (Color) Dennis Morgan D
Dec. 28			CASS TIMBERLANE Spencer Tracy Lana Turner D—120 min. (Rev. 11/5/47)	SMART POLITICS June Preisser Freddie Stewart D		MAIN STREET KID Al Pearce C		(Reissue) TOBACCO ROAD Gene Tierney D—84 min. (744) (Rev. 2/21/41)	(Jan. Releases) (Triangle) SLEEP MY LOVE Claudette Colbert Robert Cummings Don Ameche D	BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr D—100 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	
Jan. 4			IF WINTER COMES Walter Pidgeon Deborah Kerr D	SONG OF THE DRIFTER Jimmy Wakely O				(Reissue) GRAPES OF WRATH Henry Fonda D—128 min. (745) (Rev. 11/25/40)	(Gainsborough) MAN OF EVIL James Mason Phyllis Calvert D		

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dr[illegible] (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 113 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

MGM Effects Shakeup of Studio Heads

Duties of Sidney, Cohn, McGuinness Revamped

Hollywood, Dec. 10.—Declaring that "boom days are over" and indicating that executives must devote their energies to production, Louis B. Mayer today announced realignments in M-G-M studio responsibilities. One effect of the shakeup is to free Mayer, general manager E. J. Mannix and executive vice-president Ben Thau of various duties.

Louis K. Sidney was elevated to vice-president, taking over some of Mannix's work in addition to continuing his own, while J. J. Cohn, also promoted to vice-president, will have complete responsibility for production operations in cooperation with general management.

Al Lichtman and James K. McGuinness will become individual producers

(*Continued on page* 2)

3 MPF Committees Will Meet in Jan.

The three Motion Picture Foundation committees which will determine methods of fund-raising, set up an MPF financial administration and survey the industry and its potential needs in terms of relief and assistance, are expected to hold their first meetings in New York at various times early next month.

The survey committee is headed by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio vice-president; the finance committee by Si Fabian, head of Fabian Theatres, and the committee on organization and administration includes all elected officers of the Foundation under the chairmanship, presumably, of MPF president E. V. Richards.

No 'Special' MPF Fund, Richards Says

E. V. Richards, Jr., president of the Motion Picture Foundation, yesterday issued the following statement:

"A report appeared in some of the trade papers conveying the impression that a special Foundation fund was to be created to handle needy cases prior to the realization of the capital fund

(*Continued on page* 4)

Canada Already Feeling New Ban on Equipment

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The Canadian government's comparatively new ban on the importation of certain motion picture equipment from the U. S. and elsewhere is beginning to be felt as a major blow to modernize or expand Canadian theatres. It is now realized that such supplies will be extremely limited here since imports from the U. S. before the ban had not been as extensive as it had been believed when the ban was first announced.

It had been held at first that substitute supplies could be obtained from the United Kingdom, but, although the latter is anxious to get Canadian dollars by selling equipment to Canada, disclosure of the amount of projectors and other items available from that source has proven disappointing; it is quite limited due to shortages, together with post-war demands in that country.

National Service Now in all Cities

Philadelphia, Dec. 10.—National Film Service, Inc., formed several months ago by members of National Film Carriers to handle physical distribution for any producer or producer-director, has established its own centers in all cities in the U. S. where major distributors operate.

Storing, inspecting and shipping prints depots are in operation in buildings of members in many of the 31 centers, while buildings are now under construction in others. National handles physical distribution for Selznick Releasing nationally, while some territories are being serviced for RKO Radio, Eagle-Lion Films, Republic, Film Classics, Monogram and numerous independents.

Academy's Branches Are Increased to 12

Hollywood, Dec. 10.—Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has increased the number of its branches from 11 to 12 by splitting the producer-executive branch, with Jack Warner and Walter Wanger heading the producer division, and N. Peter Rathvon and Donald Nelson heading the executive division.

A substitute for Nelson, who will leave the industry Jan. 31, will be made later.

Coast Court to Air Bid by 10 Indicted

Los Angeles, Dec. 10.—Nine of the 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers charged with contempt of Congress were surrendered to the U. S. marshal here today by their attorney, Robert W. Kenny and were freed on $1,000 bond each to appear tomorrow morning before Federal Judge J. F. T. O'Connor.

With Dalton Trumbo reportedly inaccessible on his remote ranch but, according to Kenny, scheduled to appear in court tomorrow, the hearing before Judge O'Connor will be on Kenny's motion to prevent extradition to Washington for trial. The nine who appeared today were Edward Dmytryk, Alvah Bessie, Lester Cole, Adrian Scott, Herbert Biberman, Ring Lardner, Jr., Samuel Ornitz, Albert Maltz and John Howard Lawson.

At the same time, U. S. attorney James M. Clark said the 10 are wanted in Washington Dec. 19.

56,667 Common Shares for Rainbow

Paramount paid 56,667 shares of its common stock to acquire Rainbow Productions from Leo McCarey, producer-writer, director and Rainbow president, under the deal finalized last month, it was disclosed in financial circles here yesterday. Stock paid was valued at approximately $1,133,340 on the basis of yesterday's closing price of $20.50 per share.

Payment was made out of the reservoir of Paramount common the company has been buying on the open market under a program announced by president Barney Balaban in November. Last month the company purchased 58,000 shares, and the total shares now in the company's treasury number 403,633. In October the company paid 135,000 shares to acquire Liberty Films.

UA To File Against 3 Producers Shortly

United Artists will demand early delivery of Enterprise Productions' "Arch of Triumph," Cagney Productions' "Time of Your Life" and Monterey Productions' "Red River" in three separate breach-of-contract suits to be filed here upon the com-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Eady Reopens Talks on U. K. Tax Situation

Meets with Fuller, O'Brien; Allport Next

By PETER BURNUP

London, Dec. 10.—Failure of British producers to implement their promises to step up production here, the rapid drying-up of American film backlogs in England, and current symptoms of a British box-office recession are three factors which emphasize the serious danger which delay in the resumption of the Eady-Allport tax talks is placing the British film industry in.

This was stated jointly today by W. R. Fuller, secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Seek Plan for U. S. Aid on Remittances

Washington, Dec. 10.—Film companies may join with publishers to work out a common proposal for Government aid in getting remittances out of dollar-short countries which have imposed fund freezes.

Both the Motion Picture Association and publishers, such as McGraw-Hill and the *New York Herald Tribune*, which have foreign distribution (the *Paris Herald* is owned by the *N. Y. Herald-Tribune*) have broached the subject to key Congressmen and State Department spokesmen, as reported in Motion Picture Daily of

(*Continued on page* 4)

Ascap, TOA Set New Music Tax Formula

Theatre Owners of America and Ascap committees yesterday negotiated a new theatre music tax formula which now goes to the Ascap Board of directors for action. The board's decision will determine whether further negotiating meetings will be required.

It is uncertain whether the Ascap board can be convened before the holidays. Neither side would comment yesterday on the nature of the proposals advanced.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR B. KRIM, Eagle-Lion president, left here yesterday for Chicago en route to the Coast.

●

FRANK J. SCULLI, M-G-M office manager in Philadelphia, was here yesterday for meetings with **ALAN F. CUMMINGS**, head of exchange operations.

●

DEWEY BLOOM, M-G-M exploitation manager in Canada, is in town from Toronto for conferences with **WILLIAM R. FERGUSON**, exploitation director.

●

KAY HARRISON, Technicolor, Ltd., managing director, arrived in New York yesterday from England aboard the *SS Queen Mary*.

●

GEORGE WELTNER, Paramount International president, is due to return to New York from London on Monday aboard the *SS Mauretania*.

●

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service vice-president, will be in Boston tomorrow from New York.

●

THOMAS A. ADAMS, vice-president of the Paramount and Adams theatres, Newark, and **MRS. ADAMS** have become parents of a son.

●

WILLIAM PEREIRA, producer, and **GEORGE RAFT** will leave here today for Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

●

JAMES K. MCGUINNESS, M-G-M production executive, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

●

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, is due back here from Oklahoma City on Monday.

Dinner Tonight for Allied's Kirsch

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Several hundred exhibitors, distributor representatives and others will attend the fifth annual dinner and testimonial to Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States Association, which will be given by Allied of Illinos members at the Congress Hotel here tomorrow night.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will be the principal speaker.

Another Ohio Tax

CIRCLEVILLE, O., Dec. 10.—A three per cent admission tax and the licensing of all amusements will become effective here Jan. 1.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 10. — First month's receipts from the new three per cent city admission tax indicate that revenue will not reach half of the amount anticipated. Figures for October show $11,459, less than half of the $25,000 expected.

News Briefs . . .

THE entertainment world will end its 1947 fund-raising campaign for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York today at a luncheon for George Jessel at the Hotel Astor here.

Si Fabian, chairman of the FJP amusement division, will preside at the luncheon at which other speakers will be Louis Nizer, industry attorney; Norman S. Goetz, president of the FJP; Max A. Cohen; head of the Cinema Circuit.

Sanford Is Toastmaster for Schine-Selmser Testimonial

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 10.—Schine Theatres executives and co-workers of Guy Selmser, purchasing agent of the circuit for 25 years, now retiring, will attend a dinner for him, tonight, at the Ten Eyck Hotel. Bert Sanford, Altec executive, will be toast-master at the testimonial.

Branson Calls Chicago Meet

Walter E. Branson, RKO Radio Western division manager, and Harry Gittleson, his assistant, will hold a meeting in Chicago next Monday and Tuesday, for the 1948 Ned Depinet drive, after completing a tour of the West and Midwest.

CLARENCE EISEMAN, Warner Brothers, was elected president and Saul Trauner, Columbia, and William Murphy, Republic, first and second vice-presidents of the New York Film Board of Trade at a meeting here yesterday. Other officers are: Nat Furst, Monogram, treasurer; Robert J. Fannon, Republic, secretary, and Seymour Florin, 20th Century-Fox, sergeant-at-arms. Installation will be held Jan. 14.

Sugar Promoted by Eagle-Lion; Company Adds Two Salesmen

Joe Sugar has been promoted from assistant manager to manager of Eagle-Lion's contract department, replacing Ben Schectman, who resigned, A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president, announces.

Two more salesmen, meanwhile, have been added by E-L: Paul A. Hannon, in Kansas City, and Chester A. Roeder, at Los Angeles.

Ebersons Awarded Contract

John and Drew Eberson, architects, largely for theatres, have been awarded the contract to design a new permanent concert stage for Lewisohn Stadium here. The project is to be completed by June, 1948, for the city.

To The
RADIO EDITORS
of the
UNITED STATES
and CANADA

My sincere thanks and appreciation for voting the Guy Lombardo Orchestra first place again for the Eighth Consecutive Year in the Twelfth Annual Radio Poll conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY for *Fame.*

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over
NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO.
NETWORK
Coast to Coast
Thursdays—7:30 to 8.00 P.M. (EST)
on
ZIV TRANSCRIPTIONS

Walsh Foresees a Production Rise

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, foresees an early step-up in Coast production, with a resulting increase in studio employment, since the producers, having retrenched in the face of the British *ad valorem* tax impasse, now have a clearer view of the future in terms of potential costs and profits.

MGM Shakeup

(*Continued from page* 1)

on top-budget features; Lawrence Weingarten is made executive head of the editorial board, with Albert Lewin as his assistant.

Sam Katz has become executive in charge of musical productions, and Kenneth MacKenna is made editorial assistant to Mayer.

All producers are directly responsible to Mayer, Mannix and Thau.

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"VOICE OF THE TURTLE"

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Review

"My Wild Irish Rose"

(*Warner Brothers*)

THE nostalgia of the entertainment world during the horse-and-buggy era come back with Technicolor charm in "My Wild Irish Rose," an easy-going biography of the Irish tenor, Chauncey Olcott. It is generally an engaging film, with numerous production numbers, many nice tunes, and unforgettable personalities such as Lillian Russell and William Muldoon. As to story ideas, however, they are rather standard, and the humor at times is obvious.

Dennis Morgan plays the role of the smiling tenor who is bent upon climbing from humble circumstances to a singing career. The upward climb, as depicted in the Peter Milne screenplay, is marked with humor, sentiment and disappointment. Something of a singing vagabond, Morgan has the good fortune of rescuing pretty Arlene Dahl from a runaway horse. He falls in love with her but she is engaged to another. After many struggles, Morgan rises to the top and becomes La Russell's leading man. Marriage seems in the offing for the headline entertainers until Morgan's first love, Miss Dahl, reenters the scene. A few complications need to be ironed out before wedding bells ring out for true love.

Andrea King is vivid as Miss Russell and George O'Brien rightly displays plenty of muscle as Muldoon. In the comedy department are the contributions of Alan Hale and George Tobias. For many, the ballads of old Erin, coming out in happy profusion, will well be worth the price of admission. William Jacobs produced, with direction by David Butler. The screenplay was based on a book by Rita Olcott.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 27.

MANDEL HERBSTMANN

Tax Talks' Delay

(*Continued from page 1*)

and T. J. O'Brien, secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, following a discussion between the two during which the former enlarged upon the written report of his recent trip to the U. S.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Prophesying an early settlement of the British *ad valorem* tax impasse, Samuel Eckman, Jr., M-G-M's managing director in Britain, said today at a luncheon given in honor of his 20 years of service in this country, by trade associations here, that it is now more than ever essential to implement in all ways Anglo-American amity and added that he plans to devote his remaining years to that ideal and necessity.

The Fuller-O'Brien discussion was termed a preliminary to the resumption of settlement talks between the British government's Sir Wilfred Eady and Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport. Despite the privacy which surrounded the Fuller-O'Brien talk, it is authoritatively understood that Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, was favorably impressed by the conclusions reached in the talk.

No date has been set yet for resumption of the Eady-Allport talks, but it is understood that resumption will occur definitely within a few days.

Del Guidice May Move His British Company to N. Y.

Producer Filippo Del Guidice will remove his newest company, Pilgrim Productions, to the United States unless British financiers provide him with operating funds before Jan. 1, according to press dspatches reaching New York from London.

Del Guidice was general director of Twin Cities Productions until his break with J. Arthur Rank in April of this year. After his resignation from the Rank organization, he formed Pilgrim Productions, capitalized at $400,000.

No 'Special' MPF

(*Continued from page 1*)

proposed for the Foundation. No decision of this kind was made at the meeting of the board of trustees of the Foundation. On the contrary, it was the clear intention of the trustees that we do not begin our philanthropic activities until a carefully prepared program has been approved at the next meeting of the Board and until the finances of the Foundation have been established on a solid basis.

"There have also been reports indicating that specific plans were made for the capital fund itself. This matter received the consideration of the board and was referred to a committee of legal experts. Until a decision is received from the lawyers, we cannot construe any action taken as final.

"The trustees are determined that the Motion Picture Foundation be established on an enduring basis. In order to do this, it will be necessary to move slowly but surely toward the splendid objectives envisioned for this highly worthy agency."

UA to File

(*Continued from page 1*)

pletion of complaint papers, probably before the end of the week.

The company will contend that all three pictures have been completed and the producers are contractually obliged to deliver them to UA.

Cagney Prod. Weighs Sears' Suit Threat

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—John H. Tracy, attorney for Cagney Prod., who reportedly asserted that the Cagneys plan to release "The Time of Your Life" through Warner despite a statement by Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists president, that his company will sue to secure delivery of product, was conferring with Cagney executives today. Warner Brothers, which had specifically omitted the Cagney film from its recent announcement, was silent, and UA spokesmen here said the next move is up to Cagney.

Seek U.S. Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

Dec. 2, and a joint stand by all o them is regarded here as "a logica next step." A key Senator said h hoped a concerted proposal would soon be forthcoming.

Any solution, it is emphasized here would not apply to funds already frozen. The best that is hoped for is some solution to help with current remittances.

Originally, the industry was concentrating on the Mundt Bill, which authorized the State Department overseas information program. The plan was to meet expenses of the program by using frozen funds of the [illegible]panies abroad; the companies to [illegible] repaid by the Government in dollars here. However, the Mundt bill has been postponed until the next session of Congress and has been re-committed to the Senate Foreign Relations committee for amendments.

Accordingly, talk is reviving on using the Marshall Plan to aid the communications industries with State Department purchases of films, books and radio facilities for use abroad.

B&K, Para., Win Stay for Brief

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Balaban and Katz and Paramount have been granted an additional extension, to Jan. 7, to file briefs in support of a motion to dismiss a complaint against them in the DeLuxe Theatre anti-trust suit.

The case is pending in U. S. District Court before Judge William Campbell.

"WALK"
WILL START MORE TALK
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VOL. 62. NO. 114 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1947 TEN CENTS

SupremeCourt Grants 2 Days For Appeals

Defendants Get 5 Hours Total; U. S. Gets Three

U. S. Supreme Court has agreed to grant two days during the week beginning Jan. 12 for argument of appeals in the Government's New York anti-trust suit against the industry. Arguments may extend into a third day in the event the high court permits *amici curiae* and intervenors to be heard through counsel. No ruling on the latter has been made yet.

The Supreme Court has a comparatively busy schedule for the first week, beginning Jan. 5, of the New Year, comprising cases to be heard in advance of the appeals in the industry suit. If, as now expected, the court's calendar for the first week in January

(*Continued on page 3*)

Rank Has 28-Million Tied Up in Product

London, Dec. 11.—J. Arthur Rank has nearly 7,000,000 pounds ($28,000,000) invested in films now in various stages of production, and has planned additional production involving an additional 2,000,000 pounds ($8,000,000). This was disclosed by Rank today in a statement of the operations of his General Cinema Finance Corp. which is slated to be absorbed by Odeon Theatres, largely controlled by Rank.

Defending the absorption, which has been challenged by the London press, in particular, Rank stated that GCF, without Odeon's help, will be unable

(*Continued on page 3*)

N. Y. Building Code Delayed Until Feb.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 11.—Promulgation of a new standard building code affecting theatres and other places of public assembly has been delayed until February or later. A one-man State Board of Standards and Appeals is now working on the final draft, considering recommendations made by exhibitors and others at last summer's hearings.

Griffith Supreme Court Brief Filed

Washington, Dec. 11.—The Griffith Theatres told the Supreme Court today that their "buying power" was lawfully acquired.

In a brief filed with the court in connection with the government's appeal of the Oklahoma court decision, the Oklahoma companies contended that the real question in the case was whether the lawful advantages acquired by the Griffith interests had "been pushed beyond the point of such lawful advantages."

The brief contended there is a complete absence of evidence of such unlawful use.

Robert L. Wright will argue both the Griffith and Schine Theatres cases for the government. Charles B. Cochran will argue the case for Griffith, and Bruce Bromley the Schine case.

Begin Discussions on Nelson's Successor

Independent producers and their representatives both here and on the Coast have begun discussions concerning a likely successor to Donald M. Nelson as president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers but have yet to come up with a candidate, according to members of the organization here.

Nelson's resignation will become effective on Jan. 31, as he announced,

(*Continued on page 3*)

SRO, National Film In Deal to 1950

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—National Film Service yesterday executed a contract with Selznick Releasing Organization to handle physical distribution of all SRO product throughout the U. S. to Dec. 31, 1950.

The contract is dated April 7, 1947, when National took over physical distribution of SRO's "Duel in the Sun."

U. A. Summonses to Enterprise, Cagney

Summonses were served on Enterprise and Cagney Pictures by United Artists yesterday as a preliminary to actions based on contracts with U.A. to compel delivery of "Arch of Triumph" and "Time of Your Life" to the distributor.

At the same time, Monterey Prod. was notified by U.A. that an arbitrator had been selected to hear the dispute between the two over non-delivery of "Red River."

George J. Schaefer, vice-president, accepted the summons for Enterprise. Validity of the service on Cagney is in doubt as it was handed to Margaret Blakely, Cagney's Eastern representative. She is not an officer of the company.

Kirsch Fete Hears Upped Rentals Plea by Skouras

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Citing current cost and profit factors involved in production and distribution, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, tonight reiterated his earlier plea for exhibitors to cooperate with distribution's aim to secure increased rentals. He termed increased rentals the "one solution for [exhibition and distribution] if we are to stay in business."

Jack Kirsch

Speaking before an Illinois Allied-sponsored testimonial to Allied States president Jack Kirsch, at the Congress Hotel here, tonight, Skouras

(*Continued on page 3*)

London Press Says Tax Will Remain

London, Dec. 11. — This evening's London newspapers gave prominent space to a supposedly official announcement that the British government has no intention of modifying the *ad valorem* tax on film imports. Both American and English film quarters appeared disturbed.

It was learned following publishing of the report that the statement was made by an authority to a news agency's House of Commons correspondent.

Treasury officials, meanwhile, have denied categorically having any knowledge of the slightest foundation for the report, and assumed that the correspondent's story is "kite-flying" in an endeavor to provoke official statements which would be likely to embarrass the tax settlement talks about to be resumed.

Ascap Drafts New Plan on Theatre Fees

If Board Approves It, Plan Will Go to TOA

The new proposal for theatre music licensing rates which is scheduled to be presented to the board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is to be formulated by the Ascap negotiating committee and will not be a joint proposal carrying the approval of the Theatre Owners of America, as first supposed, it was learned yesterday.

This development, however, is the first indication that the Ascap negotiating committee will depart from its originally announced schedule of 300 per cent increases in theatre music licensing fees.

It also indicates that further delay in the presentation of a new rate schedule to exhibitors is inevitable.

No meeting of the Ascap board is scheduled and there appeared to be

(*Continued on page 3*)

Two Moves Against Tax in Congress

Washington, Dec. 11.—Two steps in the direction of admission tax relief were taken in Congress today.

The Senate Executive Expenditures Committee approved a resolution calling for the elimination of the admission tax "as soon as practicable," while in the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. John D. Dingell (D.-Mich.) introduced a bill which would cut the tax by 50 per cent.

The Senate resolution was adopted originally at a joint conference of governors and Congressmen, held in Chicago last fall. In addition to the abolition of the admission tax, the resolution recommends turning over the levying and collecting of excise taxes to state governments.

Jolson in M-G-M's Film About Jolson

Louis B. Mayer and Al Jolson announced yesterday through the company's home office that M-G-M will bring to the screen a sequel to "The Jolson Story" which Edwin Knopf will produce. Jolson will work with the latter on an original story and will be associated with him in the preparation and filming.

Personal Mention

SERGE SEMENENKO has been elevated to senior vice-president of the First National Bank of Boston.

•

HELEN MOURAD ADAMS, secretary to WALTER READE, SR., for 20 years was honored at Reade Theatres' Christmas Party in Plainfield, N. J., this week and presented with a $500 U. S. bond from the company and gifts from her colleagues.

•

JOSEPH HARRIS, Realart Pictures board chairman, and BUDD ROGERS, vice-president and general sales manager, have returned to New York from Boston.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew assistant treasurer, yesterday was given a birthday party at the Hotel Astor here by home office executives and friends.

•

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, is expected here today from Chicago.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, will return to New York today from Cincinnati.

•

MURRAY MEINBERG, city manager in Plainfield, N. J., for Walter Reade Theatres, and MRS. MEINBERG have become parents of their second son.

•

PAUL MACNAMARA, Selznick Releasing Organization national advertising-publicity director, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

JACQUES KOPFSTEIN, Astor Pictures executive vice-president, is en route to New York from San Francisco.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, is on a trip to Boston and Pittsburgh from New York.

•

OSCAR DOOB, Loew general theatre executive, is in Reading, Pa., from New York.

•

J. J. UNGER, United Artists general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

JOHN ZANFT, M-G-M studio executive, is due here next week from Hollywood.

•

NORMA SHEARER and her husband, M. ARROUGE, have left here by TWA Constellation for Geneva.

'Vets' to Hear Quigley

Martin Quigley will be guest speaker at the next monthly luncheon of the Cardinal Hayes Memorial Post No. 296, Catholic War Veterans, at the Hotel Taft, New York, on Friday, Dec. 19.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

NOBODY loves a pessimist. But a fact, or what dolefully appears to shape up as one, has to be looked squarely in the eye.

Squarely in the eye, and hurting like the furies, is the British tax impasse. There have been meetings. Then the meetings bogged down. Now they are to be resumed in London in face of the dangers admittedly confronting British exhibition—inability of producers there to increase output, drying up of American backlogs resting in vaults before the tax went into effect, indications that English box-offices are backing away from recent levels.

■

How much window-dressing is concerned here is decidedly a question. The Labor Government seems to be in a mood to keep the record clear; therefore the motions, at least, of reaching for a way out. The American companies, through Eric Johnston's London representatives, are trying to keep the ball rolling.

Meanwhile, Britain's internal situation shows evidence of improving—the output of coal is a very significant indication—but the signs are not enough to alter the official position on flight of dollars. It becomes not without vast significance, consequently, that this Government only a few days ago authorized Britain to resume credit withdrawals on the remaining $400,000,000 of the $3,750,000,000 loan which was figured to prove sufficient for Britain's needs for several years beyond 1948.

Thus, England's situation remains without essential change. In an economy tied irrevocably to austerity, the question now, as it has been, deals with essentials and whether or not American, or any other imported films, are necessary. This may not be flattering to the industry here and it may not be helpful to the British exhibitor. It's even open to argument, but the issue involved is one of food and sustenance on a basis of reasonably secure national health. If a man is hungry and has to decide—however, reluctantly—between bacon or films, there doesn't seem to be much doubt about his answer.

■

Looking another situation squarely in the eye is the matter of film inventories. These inventories, representing attractions finished before Britain went *ad valorem* and yet to reach the market, are high. Many think excessively high, although they represent the dying gasps of a lush and flush Hollywood not then touched by such post-war hammer-blows as tightening foreign markets and declining domestic revenues.

The attractions now in repositories will be released in less time than producers calculated at the outset. This means they will hit a market which is not geared to absorb their cost. The ratio between cost and return is something no one will forecast with impunity, but there is talk of a 25 per cent differential.

If impending events bear this out, it will be another way of spelling "Murder in 1948."

Coast Court Weighs Extradition Move

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11.—Whether the 10 Hollywood persons cited for contempt of Congress must go to Washington next Friday or can be represented there by counsel will be decided tomorrow afternoon when Federal Court Judge J. F. T. O'Connor, who adjourned today's session in order to study briefs submitted by defense counsel Robert W. Kenny and U. S. Attorney James M. Carter, is expected to issue a ruling.

[Meanwhile, in Washington, Federal District Court Judge Pine granted a request by Martin Popper, attorney there for the 10 cited, for a hearing Monday morning on his suggestions for a date for making motions and trial.]

Dalton Trumbo, who was the only one of the 10 who failed to appear in the Coast court yesterday, surrendered today and was released on bail.

President Films Will Export and Import

President Films has been formed to distribute foreign pictures in the United States and export to Europe and Latin America. Officers are: Harold Getz, president; David Getz, vice-president; Benedict Brucia, secretary-treasurer. They will also serve on the board of Mexcita, their Latin American company which will distribute in Central and South America.

Besides exporting and importing, both companies will produce in Palestine, Mexico and Italy.

Canty Shifted to Berne

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The State Department today transferred George R. Canty, Department film adviser, to the American Legation at Berne, Switzerland, effective Jan. 15. No successor has been appointed yet.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Lizabeth SCOTT
John HODIAK
Burt LANCASTER
'DESERT FURY'
TECHNICOLOR
IN PERSO
James BARTON
Extra!
Francis CRAIG
PLUS OTHER BIG ACTS

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM · JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
EXTRA! LOUIS vs WALCOTT Fight Films

RAY MILLAND · MARLENE DIETRICH
in
"Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
in Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

Gentleman's Agreement
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.
20th CENTURY-FOX

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
GINGER ROGERS · CORNEL WILDE
It Had to Be You
★ PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ★
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Kirsch Fete

(*Continued from page* 1)

reemphasized a number of earlier statements he had made on industry and company problems.

Referring to 20th-Fox's expectations for 1947, he asserted that while expected income from abroad will be about $20,000,000, this will be reduced to about $7,000,000 by March 1, 1948. Furthermore, he said, estimated profits this year, including 20th's National Theatres, will be approximately $15,000,000, of which $11,000,000 will be accounted for by NT. Thus, estimated profits from films alone, both foreign and domestic, will hit only $4,000,000, he declared.

Skouras said the Un-American Activities Committee has given the industry its deepest hurt on the home front; that exhibitor-distributor cooperation is essential if the industry is to successfully fend off attacks from enemies here and abroad.

He expressed the belief that theatre divorcement would benefit no one and would substantially weaken producers in their battle for world markets. With present foreign market ills, it is doubtful whether any company under the present selling system, can operate profitably after next March 1, Skouras said.

Skouras commended Kirsch for having "striven to do that which is good for our business" since he became Allied president. He praised Kirsch and the majority of the delegates at the recent Allied convention in Milwaukee for voting to table the proposal that trailers be shown attacking producers and product.

"There is still time," Skouras said, "for that great cooperative that can profit us all—the effort we can make at the conference table, not the courtroom; achieve in our family and not in the headlines, for our mutual good and not for the aid and comfort of our enemies. We can be statesmen in our own way and for our own sakes."

Gov. Dwight Green of Illinois was among the dinner guests.

Rank Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

to meet the planned production commitment. He pointed out that Odeon Theatres not only are urgently in need of every film that possibly can be made, but that the British government has urged producers to sharply increase production.

Rank has called a meeting of Odeon stockholders for Dec. 19, at which time he will ask them to ratify the GCF-Odeon deal.

The statement on GCF discloses that general profit outweighed production losses until 1946 when the latter exceeded 1,500,000 pounds ($6,000,000, resulting in a net loss of nearly 500,000 pounds ($2,000,000). Rank claimed that this large loss was due entirely to establishing an overseas distribution organization and to a deliberate policy of producing inordinately expensive films with a view toward establishing overseas prestige.

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Review

"T-Men"

(*Eagle-Lion*)

"T-MEN" is a sterling tribute to the heroism and resourcefulness of the U. S. Treasury Department's undercover agents. Produced by Aubrey Schenck under the aegis of Edward Small, it is a film in the quasi-documentary vein and, as entertainment, ranks with the best in that genre, not excepting "The House on 92nd Street."

True, the proceedings of John C. Higgins' tightly-knit screenplay are rooted in a conventional cops-and-robbers theme, but the convincing performances which director Anthony Mann has drawn from the cast, headed by Dennis O'Keefe, plus the superb photographic effects achieved by George J. Teague, lend the story freshness and credibility. This picture is easily the best to come from Eagle-Lion to date, and it is inherently one of the most exploitable to be produced by any studio this year. Prediction: "T-Men" will make a fine showing at the box-office.

Following a brief outline at the outset of the Treasury's detecting activities —Elmer L. Irey, former coordinator of the Department's law enforcement agencies, sets the stage—a crisp, authoritative off-screen voice takes over as the camera picks up O'Keefe and Alfred Ryder in the process of being briefed for assignment to a stubborn case involving dope smuggling and counterfeiting. Then, posing as underworld characters, they ingratiate themselves with a notorious mob leader. A taut, suspenseful atmosphere develops as they latch onto the trail leading to the source of top quality counterfeiting paper, and tension is sustained admirably right up to the fadeout, which is preceded by a heart-pounding climactic police rescue of O'Keefe, whose true identity had finally been uncovered by the counterfeiters. O'Keefe survives the bullet-riddling he takes in a final show-down fight with mobster Charles McGraw, who some time earlier had killed Ryder in O'Keefe's presence when he discovered the former was a T-Man. Scene of the action alternates, for the most part, between Detroit and Los Angeles. Off-screen voice returns from time to time to supply pertinent details of Treasury operations, thus heightening "documentary" realism.

O'Keefe, Ryder and McGraw perform very effectively, as do others, including June Lockhart, in a very brief but poignant role as Ryder's wife; Mary Meade, as a counterfeiter's pretty emissary, and Jane Randolph, John Wengraf and William Malter as the oily, genteel counterfeit promoters. But special mention should be made of Wally Ford who wraps up the acting honors as a cringing, scheming hypochondriac with a knack for playing both ends against the middle in the counterfeiting racket. Production values are first-rate in this film which had for its source material a story by Virginia Kellogg.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 10.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Ascap Drafts

(*Continued from page* 1)

some doubt yesterday whether directors could be convened in a special meeting before the holidays. Even if the Ascap board, at its next meeting, sees fit to approve the new formula of its negotiating committee, and the formula might be rejected by the board, it is apparent that additional meetings of the Ascap and TOA negotiating committees will be required.

The new Ascap formula may or may not be acceptable to the TOA committee. If it is not, it would require further discussions and changes, in which case it might have to be returned again to the Ascap board. Otherwise, the TOA committee would not recommend the plan to exhibitors.

Ascap has set Feb. 1 as the deadline for its new theatre rate increase. Presumably, it might agree to another extension of the deadline if negotiations are still on by that date.

It is learned that the Ascap board has not yet authorized its management representatives to negotiate new rates. This, it was indicated, is the explanation of the Ascap committee's present procedure in preparing a new theatre licensing plan which it can present to the Ascap board for approval and, if approval is obtained, get the board's authorization, as well, to offer the plan to exhibitors through the TOA.

If a representative number of exhibitors accept such a plan Ascap would be required by its Federal consent decree to license all exhibitors accordingly, since the decree prohibits Ascap from discriminating in the matter of rates among licensees in the same classification.

Supreme Court

(*Continued from page* 1)

can be cleared on schedule or with only minor delays, the industry appeals will be heard during the week of Jan. 12. If not, the industry hearing could go over to the following week, but that is regarded now as only a slim possibility.

The high court convenes for four-hour sessions daily. Of the eight hours, or two-day sessions presently allowed for presentation of appeal arguments, three hours have been allocated to the Department of Justice. The remaining five hours are to be apportioned among counsel for the eight major defendants. John W. Davis, counsel for Loew's, is expected to be lead-off man for the defendants. He will be followed by former Supreme Court Justice James F. Byrnes, for 20th Century-Fox; Joseph M. Proskauer, Warners; Gen. William J. Donovan, RKO; Louis D. Frohlich, Columbia; Whitney Seymour, Paramount; Thomas Turner Cooke, Universal, and Edward C. Raftery, United Artists.

Assistant U. S. Attorney General John Sonnett or Robert Wright probably will argue for the government.

Thurman Arnold, counsel for the American Theatres Association, in an intervention action begun prior to ATA's merger with MPTOA to form the present Theatre Owners of America, will ask for one hour for argument and other counsel for *amici curiae* also may ask for time.

Some of the defendants plan to exchange briefs next week but others will not do so until Dec. 22.

News Briefs

A SPECIAL memorandum for Theater Owners of America members describing 20th Century-Fox's 16mm. program will be prepared by Peter Levathes, in charge of the company's 16mm. distribution. This announcement followed a meeting here yesterday of Myron Blank, co-chairman of the TOA 16mm. committee; Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, and Levathes.

Levathes said that 20th Century-Fox's "distribution of 16mm. films is not designed to interfere with regularly established 35mm. theatres."

Jessel Honored at Luncheon Closing Federation Drive

A testimonial luncheon was tendered George Jessel at the Hotel Astor here yesterday by the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. Jessel, an early founder of the division, was presented with a scroll for his efforts in the interests of the FJP. Some 500 attended. FJP's 1947 drive was formally closed with the luncheons.

Si Fabian presided. Speakers, outlining the needs and activities of the FJP, included Max A. Cohen, Victor Reisenfeld, chairman of the FJP's 1947 drive; and Louis Nizer, industry attorney.

Dais guests included: Rabbi Bernard Birstein, Walter Vincent, Sol Strausberg, Jerry Danzig, Leonard Goldenson, William German, Ralph Poucher, Will H. Hays, Herman Gelber, Edward Schreiber, Jack Alicoate, Marcus Heiman, Barney Balaban, Johnny O'Connor, Joseph Willen, Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsberg, Leopold Friedman, Henry Jaffe, Harry Brandt, Emil Friedlander, Manny Sacks, Edward Rugoff, Max Gordon, Samuel Rinzler, Dan Michalove, Sam Rosen, Chick Lewis, Al Schwalberg.

Trendle's 'Lone Ranger' Rated Top Program

DETROIT, Dec. 11. — George Trendle's "Lone Ranger" radio program has won a Nielson rating of top program on the American Broadcasting network.

Trendle has left his Detroit headquarters to spend Christmas on the West Coast. He was one of the founders of the Kunsky-Trendle circuit and became Paramounts' operating partner in Detroit. Since his withdrawal from the motion picture field he has concentrated on radio.

"Yearling" in Eire Benefit

DUBLIN, Dec. 11.—Special premiere of "The Yearling" was held here at a stage and screen benefit organized by the Catholic Stage Guild of Ireland in cooperation with the Motion Picture Association of America.

Among those present were Sean T. O'Kelly, president of Eire; George A. Garrett, American Minister to Ireland, and several Irish ministers of state.

Nelson Successor

(*Continued from page* 1)

despite producers' objections. The latter are based on the fact that Nelson is best equipped to handle issues confronting the SIMPP at this time, particularly foreign market difficulties, whereas a newcomer would not be familiar with them.

Nelson is described as being "close to the Mexican Government" and it is expected his next post will be one dealing with U.S.-Mexican economics.

ANOTHER "Smash Money"

—*Film Daily*

"Superfine! A Number-One, Grade-A, example of what audiences go for!"

"Glittering Boxoffice! Excellent production with ultra-ultra appeal!"

"Packaged by knowing hands for BOXOFFICE!"

—*M. P. Daily*

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AND A LOVE ONLY TWO CAN SHARE!

JOAN CRAWFORD · DANA ANDREWS · HENRY FONDA

in

Daisy Kenyon

with

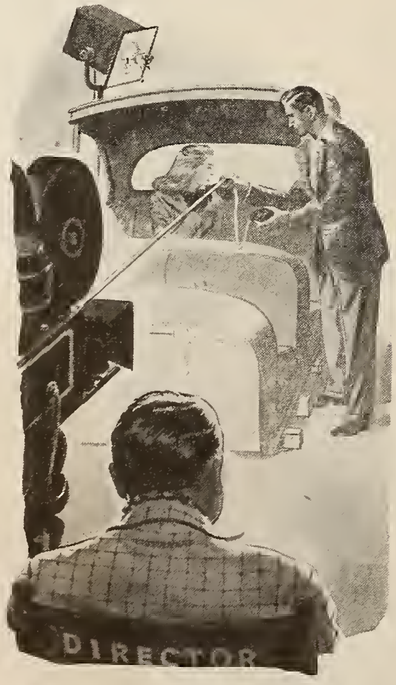
RUTH WARRICK · MARTHA STEWART · PEGGY ANN GARNER

CONNIE MARSHALL · Nicholas Joy · Art Baker

Directed and Produced by OTTO PREMINGER · Screen Play by David Hertz · Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

DAISY KENYON

Elizabeth Janeway



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Yet for a true reflection of his skilled, painstaking contribution to the picture, he must depend upon superior film, perfectly adapted to the job. This is why he welcomes working with one of the famous family of Eastman motion picture films . . . as he so often does.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 115 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1947 TEN CENTS

House Attacks Petrillo Hold On Production

Producers Cleared of Conspiracy on Video

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. — The House Labor Committee has decided to resume hearings early next year looking toward legislation to curb the power of the American Federation of Musicians and AFM president James C. Petrillo, and at the same time the group adopted a report by a sub-committee headed by Rep. Carroll B. Kearns (R., Pa.), a portion of which absolves motion picture producers of any "conspiracy" with the AFM to block the advance of television.

The report further attacked Petrillo's contractual hold on the film industry in the matter of music and recordings in production and television.

The AFM, said the report, has "held back the technological development of radio . . . by requiring all movie producers to sign a contract which provides that they shall not sell or lease any music sound track containing recorded music made by members of the Federation or scenes showing members of the Federation performing on musical instruments."

The report declared that Petrillo "has successfully created a small kingdom within our Republic," and that by the contracts he requires of radio networks, recording companies and motion picture producers, he in effect "issues licenses to do business."

Skouras Heads Films 'Brotherhood' Group

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, is chairman of the motion picture committee to enlist support for "American Brotherhood Week," Feb. 22-29, sponsored annually by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, of which Dr. Henry Noble MacCracken is general secretary.

David O. Selznick is chairman of production for "Brotherhood Week," which has President Truman as honorary chairman and Robert P. Patterson, former Secretary of War, as general chairman.

Matthew Fox in New Deal with Universal

Matthew Fox on Dec. 31 will enter into a new arrangement with Universal-International whereby his services will be engaged on a modified basis to enable him to devote part of his time to his own enterprises. Fox will be compensated on a modified basis in relation to his new duties. It was further stated by U-I that "he proposed this arrangement after the company expressed a desire to retain him to handle special projects." Reports heard over a period of more than two months had Fox resigning.

"In view of these modified services," it was stated, Fox is to give up his post as executive vice-president, but will continue to serve as a member of the board of directors and as a vice-president. He will also continue as chairman of the board of United World Pictures, and will devote much of his time to the further development of the company's production-distribu-

(*Continued on page* 4)

NY Plaintiffs May Get Ascap Respite

Following postponement at the weekend here by Federal Judge John C. Knox from Jan. 5 to Feb. 2, the date for hearing the five-year-old anti-trust case of 165 New York exhibitors against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Louis D. Frohlich, of Schwartz and Frohlich, Ascap counsel, agreed that under that circumstance the plaintiffs in the case are entitled to a 30-day extension beyond the presently-set Jan. 31 effective date for the new Ascap theatre music license rate increases.

Trial was scheduled originally for Jan. 5. At a pre-trial conference on Friday among Frohlich, plaintiffs' counsel, Milton Weisman, and Judge Knox, the latter granted Frohlich's request for a postponement.

Canada's Import Ban Heading for Trouble

OTTAWA, Dec. 14.—The Canadian government's emergency plans for the U. S. dollar crisis are running into strong opposition in the new Parliament, and the arbitrary powers given to Minister of Reconstruction and Supply C. D. Howe have been condemned severely.

"This can be characterized only as the restoration of despotism," said John Bracken, official opposition leader, who told Parliament that his party, the largest group in Parliament next to the government, will oppose "the bestowal of such power upon any man or any group of men."

Baltimore Houses to Close Christmas Eve

Baltimore, Dec. 14.—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland reports that a majority of Baltimore neighborhood film houses have voted to close all day on Christmas Eve and open at three P.M. on Christmas Day. This includes large local circuits such as Durkee, Rome, Garman, Goldberg and Schwaber.

ITOA, MMPTA to Still Work Together

Although the New York Independent Theatre Owners Association resigned as a group member of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, both New York organizations will join in projects which would be to their mutual benefit, such as fighting censorship and taxation, according to Fred Schwartz, MMPTA president.

It is believed MMPTA's policy of steering clear of trade practices figured prominently in the ITOA withdrawal. Harry Brandt, head of ITOA, resigned last week as board chairman of MMPTA.

416 Theatres in Des Moines Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—There are 416 theatres with a seating capacity of 172,906 in the Des Moines territory, according to another theatre directory released by the Motion Picture Association.

The 12th in a series of 31, the directory reveals that 43 theatres with a capacity of 37,020, are in the area's four largest cities: Des Moines, Davenport, Cedar Rapids and Waterloo. Some 233 are in towns with a population of 2,500 and under. Theatres in this group account for 59,032 seats, an average of 253 per theatre.

Bioff Loses to Para. In Default Judgment

Paramount won a $100,000 default judgment on Friday in its extortion suit in Federal Court here against Willie Bioff, former personal representative of George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE. Several months ago a similar judgment was entered against Browne. Paramount had charged that the two had extorted $200,000 from the company during a labor controversy several years ago.

Both Parties Support Tax Cut: Gamble

Hails Dingell Measure; Cites Congress' Pledge

"Leading representatives of both major (political) parties" are supporting the elimination of the "unfair and discriminatory" wartime excise taxes, including that on theatre admissions, Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, said at the weekend, as he hailed the introduction of Rep. John D. Dingall's bill providing for ending the levies.

Gamble, who has been in frequent conference and communication with Republican chairman Harold Knutson and other members of the House Ways and Means Committee regarding a reduction in Federal admission taxes, termed the bill's introduction "the first definite step of Congress in carrying out the commitment it made when the war revenue measure

(*Continued on page* 4)

Col. Will File Today For Chicago 'Relief'

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Columbia Pictures will file a claim tomorrow for exemption from the Jackson Park decree before Judge Michael Igoe in Federal Court, according to Irving Moross, attorney for the film company. Columbia will seek permission for "The Swordsman" to play more

(*Continued on page* 4)

Schine, Griffith High Court Appeals Today

Washington, Dec. 14.—The U. S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments starting tomorrow on appeals by Schine Chain Theatres, Gloversville, N. Y., and Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City, from Buffalo and Oklahoma City Federal Court decisions in Government anti-trust suits against the two.

Two hours of argument have been allotted for each case. The hearings may carry over to Tuesday inasmuch as the high court's decision period is first on its calendar tomorrow.

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president and MRS. BLUMBERG returned to Hollywood over the weekend from New York.

•

EDWARD RAFTERY is in San Francisco from New York to represent United Artists as one of the defendants in the T. and D. anti-trust suit to be heard in Federal Court there today.

•

STANLEY MEYER, United Artists Theatre circuit vice-president and general manager, and MRS. MEYER flew to Hollywood at the weekend from here.

•

CHARLES SIMONELLI, Universal-International director of special events, left here over the weekend for Sun Valley, Idaho.

•

TED GAMBLE, Theatre Owners of America board chairman, is slated to leave here tomorrow for Portland, Ore.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warner Southern division sales manager, will return to the home office today from a tour of Southern exchanges.

•

MAX WEINBERG, M-G-M Eastern shorts representative, is due in Detroit today from New York.

•

KENNETH HARGREAVES, 20th Century-Fox director, is due here today from Europe on the *SS Mauretania.*

Newsreel Parade

WORLD-CIRCLING fliers' return and the smashing of a counterfeit ring by Secret Service men are highlights in current newsreels. Various sports and human interest items round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 31—President Truman dedicates Everglades National Park. Cub fliers end world flight. Counterfeit ring smashed. France pays tribute to Gen. LeClerc. Holland children hail St. Nicholas. Football, tennis, fencing, ice skating.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 229—Secret Service smashes counterfeit ring. Paris mourns military hero LeClerc. Midget plane circles globe. Holiday for orphans. Babe Ruth as Santa. Skiing, skating.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 32—Slowest 'round-the-world flight. Plight of Navajo Indians arouses nation. T-Men smash counterfeit ring. Babe Ruth as Santa Claus hits a home-run. U. S. skiers ready for winter Olympics.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 99—Babe Ruth plays Santa to polio victims. Dutch kids cheer St. Nicholas and Royal Family. Flivver fliers return from 'round-the-world flight. Secret Service agents break up counterfeit ring. War orphan drive in New York. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 34.—Pilots end 'round-the-world jaunt. Greek demonstration. New line to pipe gas in Canada. Booster champ in Oklahoma. Manchester honors Churchill. Christmas in New York and Holland.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ONE of several reports being circulated about the new formula for music licensing fees being drawn up by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for submission to its board of directors is that it contemplates no increase in rates for small theatres.

The reports variously describe "small theatres" as those having less than 1,600 or 1,500 seats. Accordingly, any increases in rates which may be proposed would be aimed at the large houses, with the largest, naturally, singled out for the biggest tap, the reports have it.

Interesting, if true. (The reports cannot be confirmed.)

Couldn't such a formula be embarrassing to certain independent exhibitor camps which have intimated they may contest in the courts any new ASCAP proposal stemming from its meetings with Theatre Owners of America? They might find themselves fighting the good fight for and with the biggest theatres in the country, some of them full brothers to ASCAP publisher members. And on whose side would that put all the little fellows, satisfied with a music tax "status quo"?

• •

The Motion Picture Foundation last week saw fit to correct what it discerned as misleading or erroneous reports of its financial goal and interim activities, published by MOTION PICTURE DAILY and other industry publications.

The Foundation's "correction" would not have been necessary had its New York meetings last week been open to the industry press, as they rightly should have been. There is, perhaps, no organization other than the Foundation which should or could belong to the whole industry, for it will take very little less than the support and interest of the *whole* industry to make the Foundation a success. Therefore, there is or should be nothing about the Foundation which the whole industry is not entitled to know.

An open meeting provides the facts. Closed meetings invite misinterpretation, misplaced emphasis, second-hand sources of information.

The responsibility for errors in reporting the Foundation meeting, if any there were, rests solely with those who decided that the meetings would be closed to the industry trade press.

Tradewise has listened to the reasons for that decision. It still believes that the fullest information about the Foundation belongs as much to those who will make the Foundation possible as it does to those who will direct it.

• •

Ben Strozier, president of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, tells this one on himself:

One of his Rock Hill, S. C., theatres was broken into and robbed recently. The police apprehended the culprits, a couple of local youths not unknown to Strozier, and obtained confessions from them.

Strozier visited the captives in the lock-up, hopeful of getting them to aid in the recovery of important theatre records, contracts and papers which had been taken, along with a heavy day's receipts. Having accomplished the object of his visit, Strozier engaged the men in conversation.

"Tell me." he asked them, "how did you happen to pick a night when we had so much cash on hand? Did you know we were playing 'Forever Amber' at an increased admission price and figure there would be more money around?"

"Sure," one replied. "We saw the pitcher and figgered if you could take the public we had a right to take you."

• •

Have you heard about that distributor's check that went to the independent exhibitor organization? Yeah. Well, it hadn't been returned up to the time of this writing. Donations in Economy Time, yet! Tsk, tsk.

• •

Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana speaking: "It was only after independent exhibitors sought to right injustices and onerous trade practices through all the normal channels in the industry that other avenues were looked for."

Must have been two other guys we saw walk out of the United Motion Picture Industry meetings, closing what promised to be a "normal channel" for adjustment of unfair trade practices. And, ATOI, if you want to go farther back than UMPI—Or do you?

• •

Is Robert Coyne, executive director of Theatre Owners of America, headed for an SIMPP post?

Murrow to Critics:

"Beggar that I am, I am even poor in thanks, but I thank you for your sweet voices, your most sweet voices."

With these humble words Edward R. Murrow, on his CBS program, expressed gratitude to the radio editors who voted him best news commentator in the *Motion Picture Daily-Fame* 1947 radio poll. Beggar Murrow acknowledged that he swiped the line from Shakespeare.

Grinieff Set in Paris

Jacques Grinieff, head of U. S. Film Export and Magnus Films, has set up production units in Paris in association with American companies which will distribute the pictures outside of France. Grinieff also will start production in Rome in February and in Spain later, U. S. Film Export said.

We are proud to announce the acquisition of
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American Rights for
"JENNY LAMOUR"
*('Quai Des Orfevres') Eng. Titles

The story of a man whose jealousy brought all he loved to the brink of disaster.
WITH 3 GREATS of French Filmdom:
ACTOR:
LOUIS JOUVET
Singing-Dramatic Find:
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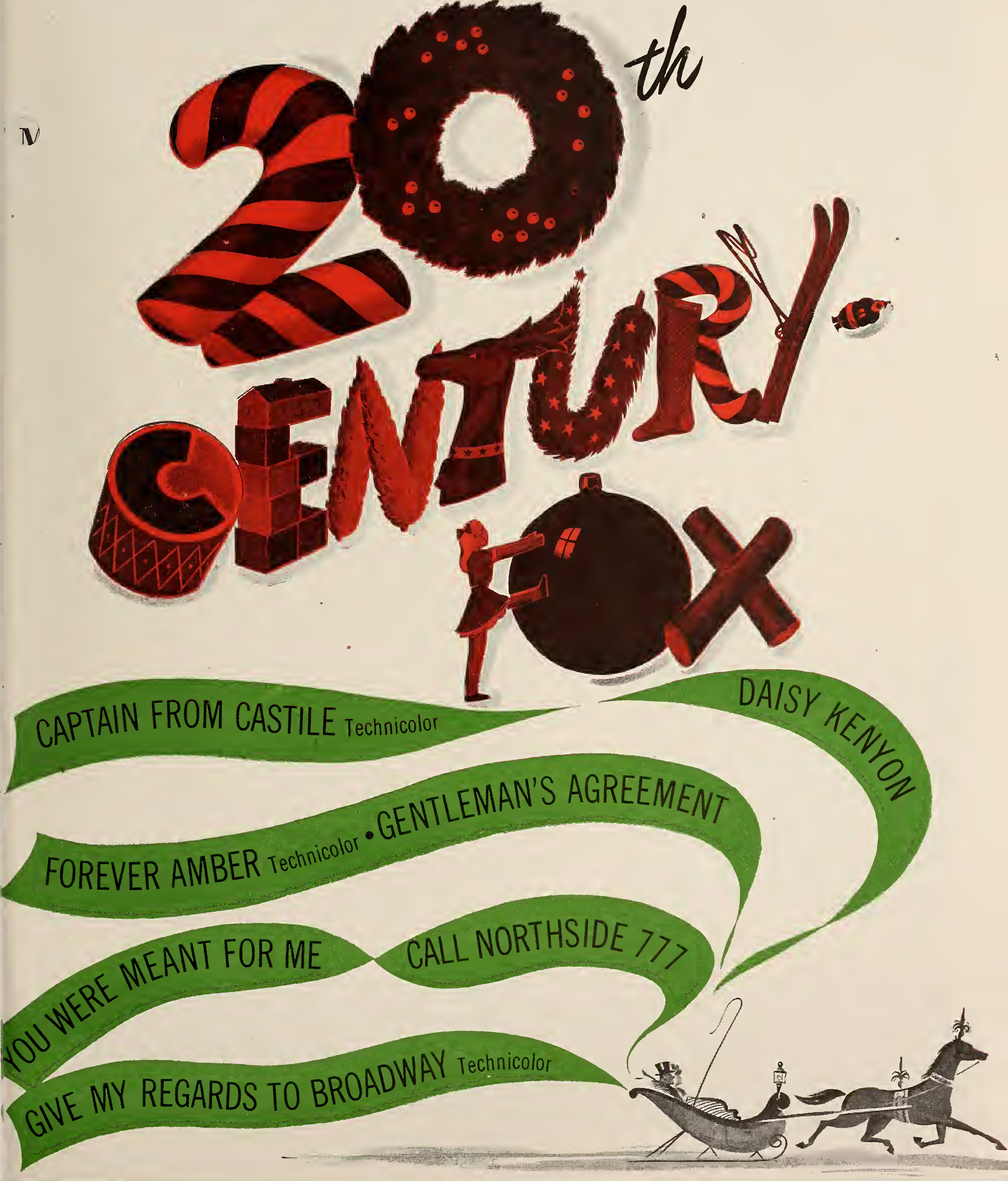
... There's A Merry Christmas for Every House in the Land from ...



CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE Technicolor

DAISY KENYON

FOREVER AMBER Technicolor • GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT

YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME

CALL NORTHSIDE 777

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY Technicolor

News Briefs . . .

UPHOLDING arguments advanced by U. S. Attorney James M. Carter, Federal Court Judge J. F. T. O'Connor of Los Angeles on Friday held that he could not rule upon pleas made by Robert W. Kenny, attorney for 10 Hollywood persons under indictment for contempt of Congress, to prevent removal of the indictees to Washington. Thus, Federal Court in Washington will rule tomorrow on similar motions made by defense attorneys there.

The ruling means that the 10 must be present in Washington Federal Court whenever they are ordered to do so. A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for next Friday.

Jersey Allied to Meet In Newark Today

NEWARK, Dec. 14.—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold a regular membership meeting at the Newark Athletic Club tomorow, with president Edward Lachman presiding. Board chairman Irving Dollinger will hold a directors' meeting prior to the general session. A report on the national Allied convention at Milwaukee on Dec. 1-3, will be presented.

4 or 5 a Year for ARPI

ARPI Productions, which releases through Film Classics, plans to produce four or five films a year and will put its second picture in work early next month, Mischa Auer, actor and ARPI associate producer, reported here at the weekend. Company recently completed its first, "For You I Die." Auer will leave here for the Coast in about a week. Associated with him are John Reinhart and Robert Presnell.

HERBERT K. SORRELL, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, has dropped his $150,000 suit alleging that the "IA" and two of its officers libeled him by branding him a Communist. The action, filed in Superior Court in Los Angeles two years ago, has been dismissed "with prejudice," which prevents Sorrell from bringing the same suit again, according to the "IA" here.

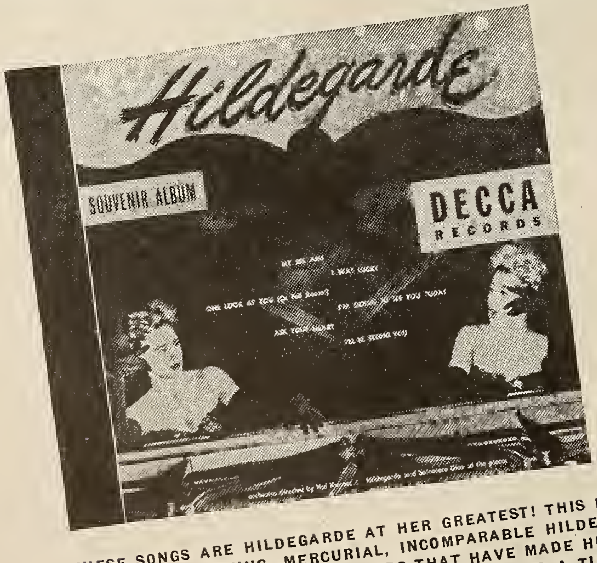
The "with prejudice" stipulation was entered into by Matthew M. Levy and Michael G. Luddy, attorneys for the "IA" and by Pestana and Esterman, representing Sorrell. Co-defendants in the suit, along with "IA", were Richard F. Walsh, "IA" president, and Roy M. Brewer, representative in Hollywood.

Rank - Kelly Meeting Tomorrow

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists' executive vice-president, who is here from New York for conferences with J. Arthur Rank on the proposed absorption of Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp. by Odeon Theatres, will have a second meeting with the British industry leader on Tuesday. Kelly is expected to ask guaranteed playing time for UA product. UA has a substantial interest in Odeon which is largely owned by Rank.

UK Quota Bill to Commons

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Britain's film quota bill was formally presented to the House of Commons at the weekend for first reading, and in accordance with Parliamentary procedure, the bill's provisions were undisclosed. It is anticipated, however, that the text will be made public on Tuesday. Second reading is expected before Christmas.



THESE SONGS ARE HILDEGARDE AT HER GREATEST! THIS IS THE LOVELY, ENCHANTING, MERCURIAL, INCOMPARABLE HILDEGARDE THRILLINGLY CAUGHT IN THE MOODS THAT HAVE MADE HER ONE OF THE SUPREME SHOWMEN OF OUR TIME! THIS IS A TIMELESS ALBUM OF SONGS THAT ARE OF TODAY . . . AND CERTAIN TO BE OF TOMORROW AS WELL! TRULY A COLLECTOR'S ITEM! TO BE RELEASED DECEMBER 15 . . . WATCH FOR IT! BY ALL MEANS, DON'T MISS IT!

Selections Include: MY BEL AMI—I WAS LUCKY—ONE LOOK AT YOU—I'LL BE SEEING YOU—ASK YOUR HEART—I'M GOING TO SEE YOU TODAY • DECCA ALBUM No. A-541. • A DECCA PERSONALITY SERIES ALBUM.

Reviews

"The Senator Was Indiscreet"

(Universal-International)

MACHINE politics and politicians come in for a merry lampooning in "The Senator Was Indiscreet." As every exhibitor knows, a good laugh is redeemable at any box-office, and this one has no shortage of them. It also has many other advantages which should make the exploitation problem an easy one for showmen. However, this Nunnally Johnson production, in its over-exuberant desire to be satirical, occasionally exercises imagination to a point of silliness.

William Powell, as a pompous, long-winded senator, cuts an outstanding caricature. Aiding him in the acting chores are Ella Raines, Peter Lind Hayes, Arleen Whelan, Allen Jenkins and Ray Collins. Charles MacArthur fashioned the screenplay in which the nitwit senator decides he would like to be President. This absurd lark grows into a reasonable possibility whe the senator starts a nationwide tour, meeting kiddies, judging beauty conte making wild promises and eluding all issues. The buildup is further nourished by the knowing ballyhoo of a skilled press agent. This is not to the liking of the jittery party bosses. But when they decide to put the brakes on the senator's runaway imagination, they discover he has been keeping a diary in which all is revealed. The bosses become screaming mad, but when the diary disappears, they become panicky.

As the farce runs its course, many political types come into clear outline. The diary is finally recovered and many a nervous politician is able to breathe easily again. However, this is not a film that sticks to stale formulas. In an unexpected turn, the diary is delivered by the chastened publicist into the hands of a crusading newspaper. The result has an assortment of politicians booking passage for faraway places. The senator winds up in the South Seas with his wife, a person whose identity provides a final surprise.

Miss Raines makes an attractive newspaper woman and she plays her role with easy competence. Hayes, as the hep press agent, handles his assignment well. George S. Kaufman, in his direction, has kept things at a brisk pace, and the cameraman has provided him with many fresh and interesting touches.

There will be those who claim the film gives the political machine a needed ventilation, while others will hold that the satire is in bad taste. One thing is certain. Many will claim it a delightful romp. Gene Fowler, Jr., was associate producer; the story was by Edwin Lanham.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. Set for January release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Bandits of Dark Canyon"

(Republic)

ALLAN (ROCKY) LANE goes rummaging through the remnants of a ghost town in "Bandits of Dark Canyon." The purpose of the macabre probing, which includes digging up a grave, is to prove a man innocent of a murder that actually was never committed. The film is very much in the Western groove, and has its satisfactory portions of wild galloping, gunplay and fisticuffs. Bob Steele plays the man who was framed.

When Lane becomes convinced of his innocence, the two work a ruse that eventually collars the real outlaws. A juvenile angle has been added by the presence of Gregory Marshall as Steele's worshipful son. John Hamilton provides slapstick and Linda Johnson the slight feminine touch. Gordon Kay was associate producer, and Philip Ford the director. Bob Williams did the action-emphasized screenplay.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 15.

M. H.

Columbia Files

(Continued from page 1)

than two weeks in a Loop Balaban and Katz house.

Grounds for the claim will be that Columbia was not a defendant in the complaint and that the money it will spend to advertise and exploit the picture if it is allowed to play an extended engagement will benefit subsequent runs.

Moross said he will not seek blanket relief nor undetermined length of run. All Columbia wants is permission for "The Swordsman" to play four weeks and an open door for similar relief for certain other pictures that might be forthcoming.

Gamble on Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

was enacted in Feb., 1944," when it was stated that the increase then from 10 to 20 per cent in admission taxes would be rescinded six months after the end of the war.

The TOA president said he and his organization are gratified that the excise elimination is receiving bi-partisan support.

Matthew Fox

(Continued from page 1)

tion program for 16mm. pictures. In addition he will carry out such assignments for the company as may be given to him by the president.

The board has approved the new arrangement with Fox.

It is expected that the post of executive vice-president will not be refilled, according to a company spokesman, who pointed out that the title was especially created for Fox in 1945 following his release from the Army.

Gain and Rank Part Company on Policy

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Barrington Campbell Gain, hitherto one of J. Arthur Rank's intimate financial advisers, has resigned from the directorate of General Cinema Finance Corp. and all other Rank companies following long-standing differences between the two on policy.

Gain's resignation is said to have no roots in the controversy between Rank and the London press on the question of the proposed absorption of GCF by Rank's Odeon Theatres.

TRAILERS

are your BEST BUY in ADVERTISING!

- They sell with ACTION!
- They sell with SOUND!
- They sell with SOCK!

▶ Your TRAILER audience...is a 100% THEATRE audience! TRAILERS *Cost Less* and *Sell More*...than any of your other advertising media!

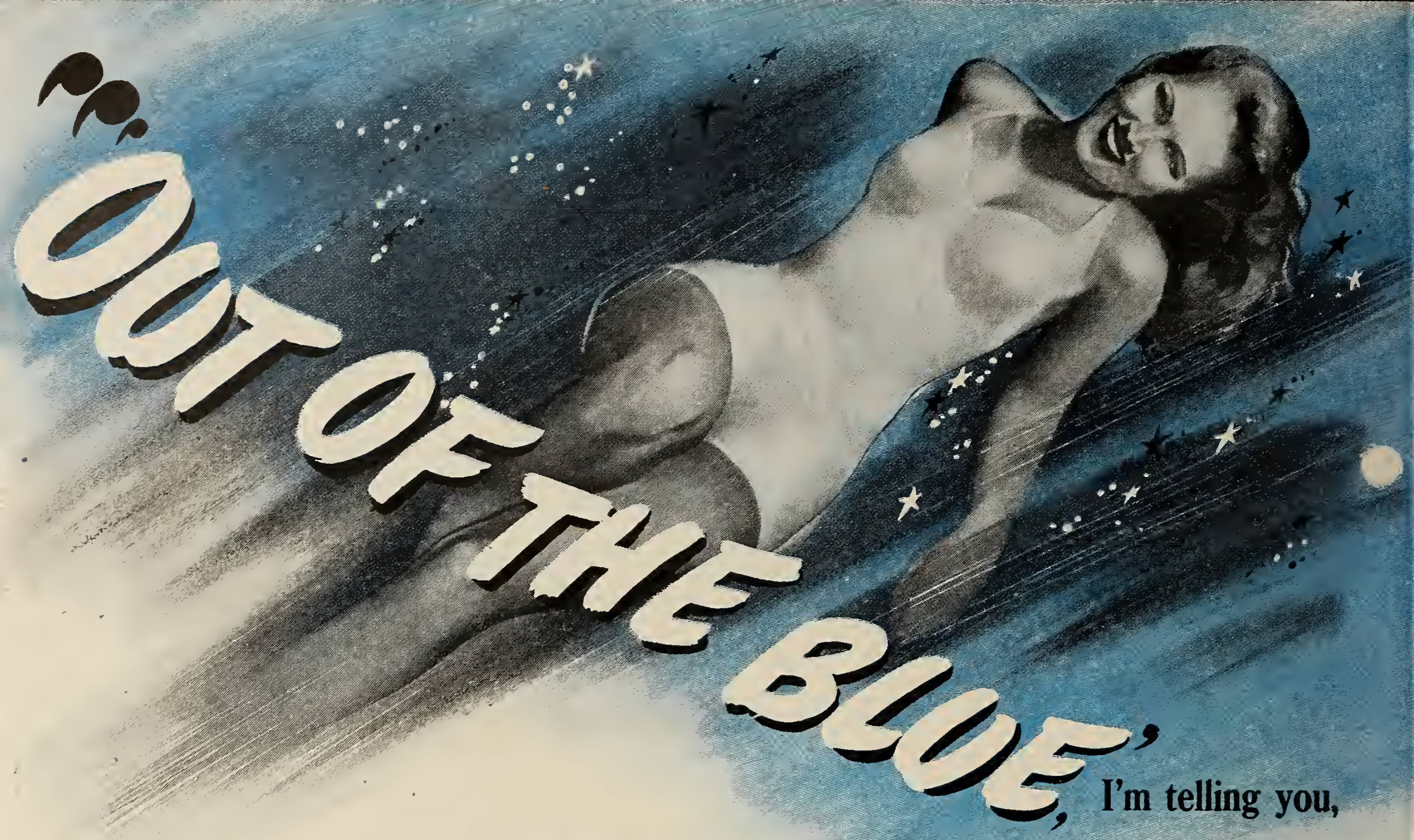
▶ Surveys prove that TRAILERS influence as much as 31% of your patrons! We don't say it! Woman's Home Companion says it!*...through its impartial survey of *all* advertising media!

▶ Yet...notice how LITTLE Trailers cost you!

▶ TRAILERS are your *Most EFFECTIVE...least* EXPENSIVE means of advertising your ATTRACTIONS!

*Would you like a reprint of the Woman's Home Companion survey? Write to N.S.S. Advertising Department, 630 Ninth Ave., New York 19, New York. It's FREE!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY



"'OUT OF THE BLUE,' I'm telling you, is one of the most riotous farces ever put on celluloid. It belongs in the class of inspired nonsense that sired 'My Man Godfrey' of blessed memory. It's saucy and sexy and spicy, with a solid story on which to base its chucklesome nonsense."

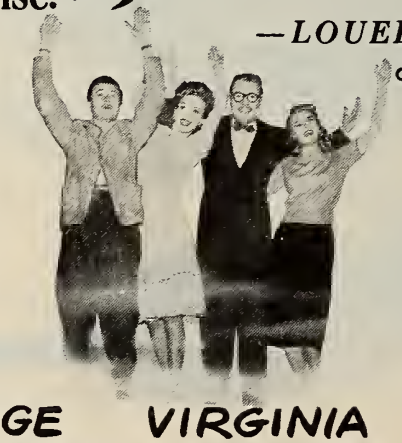
—*LOUELLA PARSONS*
COSMOPOLITAN

TOP COMEDY OF THE YEAR!

Mr. A. W. Schwalberg
Eagle Lion Films, Inc.
165 West 46 Street
New York City

ALL HOUSE RECORDS ROXY THEATRE, KANSAS CITY, MO., BROKEN TODAY WITH OUT OF THE BLUE. AUDIENCE AGREES WITH US THAT THIS IS TOP COMEDY HIT OF THE YEAR. THANKS FOR A FINE PICTURE BACKED BY EXTREMELY COMPREHENSIVE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN. REGARDS.

Jack Braunagel,
Durwood Theatres.



GEORGE **BRENT** · VIRGINIA **MAYO** · TURHAN **BEY**
ANN **DVORAK** · CAROLE **LANDIS**

"Out Of The Blue"

with
Elizabeth PATTERSON · Julia DEAN · Richard LANE · Charlie SMITH
Screenplay by WALTER BULLOCK, VERA CASPARY and EDWARD ELISCU
Based on a Story by VERA CASPARY
Produced by ISADORE G. GOLDSMITH · Directed by LEIGH JASON
BRYAN FOY in Charge of Production · An EAGLE LION FILMS Picture

"'OUT OF THE BLUE' IS OUT OF THIS WORLD" *says The Exhibitor*

NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL
NEW YORK, N. Y.

ICTURE
DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 116 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

Distributors Must All Obey 'Loop' Decree

Judge Igoe So Rules in Barring Columbia Appeal

CHICAGO, Dec. 15. — Declaring that non-defendant distributors must abide by the Jackson Park decree as affecting Balaban and Katz theatres with no exception, Federal Court Judge Michael Igoe today threw out of court an appeal by Columbia to permit the playing of "The Swordsman" for more than two weeks at a B. & K. Leep theatre. Columbia's appeal was based on the fact that it was not a defendant in the case.

Judge Igoe also reprimanded film companies which, he said, were making an obvious attempt to break down the effect of the decree before it had even cooled down. He added that he would be adamant in his stand and that they would be unsuccessful in their attempts.

B. & K. Schedule Film for 3rd Week

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Twentieth Century-Fox's "Nightmare Alley" will be held for a third week at the State Lake Theatre beginning Wednesday, Balaban and Katz have announced. At the same time the picture will be released to subsequent-run houses and is already set for runs starting Friday at the Jackson Park, Piccadilly and the B. and K. Uptown, Marbro and Maryland.

Holdovers beyond a second week are permissible under the Jackson Park decree, B. and K. contend. On the other hand, Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park, maintains that the B. and K. action is a definite violation and that he will cite them for contempt at the proper time.

Jan. 9 Arraignment Set for Cited 10

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Hollywood 10 cited for contempt of Congress will be arraigned here on Jan. 9, Justice David A. Pine ruled today.

The District judge refused a request of Martin L. Popper, attorney for the 10 that arraignment take place on the date of trial. Popper argued that the 10 should not be subjected to the additional cost, travel

(*Continued on page 3*)

Mitchell Resigns as Para. Ad-Pub. Head

Curtis Mitchell yesterday announced his resignation from Paramount as national director of advertising-publicity.

Mitchell said he will leave Paramount about the middle or end of January. His future plans have not been definitely decided yet and are dependent upon his further study of several prospective associations, which are understood to be outside the industry.

Paramount officials said no successor to Mitchell has been selected yet.

Mitchell joined Paramount in his present position in Nov., 1945, follow-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Kalmine To Preside At Warner Meeting

Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Brothers Theatres, will preside at a zone managers' meeting today at the company's home office. Those attending will be:

Zone Managers: James Coston, Nat Wolf, I. J. Hoffman, Frank Damis, C. J. Latta, Ted Schlanger, M. A. Silver, John J. Payette, Louis J. Halper; film buyers: Alex Halperin, Tony Stern, Bert Jacocks, Max Hoffman, Sam Blaskey, Max Friedman, John Turner, Harry Feinstein, George Crouch, Leo Miller; home office executives: C. E. Bond, Frank Cahill, Nat Fellman, Harry Goldberg, Louis Kaufman, Herman Maier, Frank Marshall, W. Stewart McDonald, Frank Phelps, Harry Rosenquest, Dan Triester, Rudolph Weiss, Harold Rodner, Miles Alban, Zeb Epstin.

SCHINE, GRIFFITH APPEALS HEARD

Both Hit Monopolistic Charges; They Control Film Supply, Gov't Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—In the face of Government charges of monopolistic practices, attorneys for the Schine and Griffith Theatres told the U. S. Supreme Court today that their methods of exhibition followed accepted trade practices and could not be construed as embodying monopolistic intent.

Bruce Bromley, attorney for the Schine Chain, told the six justices present that the Schine case could not be decided until a decision was handed down in the Paramount, et al, case. His client, he said, had gained no "territorial monopoly" because of the wide geographical area covered by its theatres.

Representing the Griffith interests, Charles B. Cochran, counsel, denied any monopolistic intent and purpose in the use of a single licensing agent by the four Griffith theatre circuits attacked by the Government.

Pressed repeatedly by Justice Frankfurter, Department of Justice attorney Robert Wright maintained that monopolistic practice was dependent neither on the size of a circuit nor whether its ownership was individual or comprised of several corporations. Evidences of monopoly were found, he declared, when a circuit of theatres "eliminated the opportunity for people outside the chain companies to compete with it." They do this, he continued under further questioning by Frankfurter, by controlling the film supply,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Kansas - Missouri Allied Is Up Today

Kansas City, Dec. 15.—Formalization of a new Allied of Kansas and Missouri is due tomorrow or Wednesday at a two-day meeting of independent exhibitors at the Hotel Phillips, and a request for affiliation with national Allied is expected to follow.

The organization is an outgrowth of some members of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association desiring a strictly-independent group.

N. Y. 1st Run Grosses Drop

Grosses at New York first-runs are tumbling as sales at shopping centers mount. The annual holiday slump is here with only a few situations unaffected so far.

"The Bishop's Wife," however, is a booming success at the Astor where $53,000 is slated for the initial week. "Always Together" with Charlie Barnet's orchestra on stage is likely to take a meager $29,000 in its first week at the Strand. "Henry V" at the

(*Continued on page 6*)

ATOI Takes Increased Price Issue to Public

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana has set out to clear exhibitors of responsibility for advanced prices in the eyes of the public. Individual exhibitors have on previous occasions taken the raised admission issue to the public, but so far as is known this is the first time combination effort has been expended in behalf of owners by a state exhibitor organization.

"In principle, the association is opposed to any and all attempts of producers or distributors to dictate to local theatre owners the prices which they must charge patrons in order to secure a contract for exhibition of the film," a statement said.

It mentioned "loyal patrons who

(*Continued on page 3*)

Canada Theatres Gross 75-Million

OTTAWA, Dec. 15. — The Canadian government discloses that box-office returns of Canadian film theatres last year amounted to $74,941,966, highest volume of business on record. Also, there was a net increase of 154 theatres, bringing the total in Canada to 1,477, a record for new theatres for any year.

Of the total box-office returns, the federal and provincial governments collected $15,052,994 in taxes, leaving net receipts of $59,888,972. This was

(*Continued on page 6*)

Two New Restrictions For Canada Theatres

Toronto, Dec. 15.—Additional restrictions on Canadian theatre construction indefinitely, are contained in two new Dominion orders, the first prohibiting the importation of structural steel from the United States, which is the principal source of supply for large building projects. Theatres in construction can be completed but those in the blueprint stage may be halted.

Second order adds speaker and synchronization equipment to the list of prohibited imports.

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, Enterprise president, will leave here today for Hollywood.

●

RICHARD BRILL has been appointed field exploitation representative for Eagle-Lion's St. Louis-Des Moines-Omaha district, replacing **JULIUS "RED" EDINSON**, who has been transferred to the Chicago territory.

●

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from a tour of the South and Midwest.

●

MANNY REINER, Selznick Releasing Organization general sales manager for Latin America, has arrived in New York from Rio de Janeiro.

●

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, and **HAROLD MIRISCH**, AA vice-president, have returned to Hollywood from Milwaukee.

●

J. W. ELLIS has been appointed Wilby-Kincey Theatre Supply representative in the Eastern area of North Carolina.

●

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, will leave here today for Boston.

●

JACQUES CHABRIER, Pathe-Cinema's representative in the United States, is in Hollywood from New York.

●

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, will be in Detroit today from New York.

●

STANLEY W. HAND, Nu-Screen Corp. general sales manager, has returned here from Albany, N. Y.

●

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

●

R. J. BELMONT, Altec assistant treasurer, and **MRS. BELMONT** have become parents of a son.

●

ROY O. DISNEY, president of Walt Disney Prod., has returned to Hollywood from New York.

●

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, left here yesterday for Boston.

●

JOHN BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is in Boston from New York.

●

HUNT STROMBERG and **MRS. STROMBERG** are in New York from Hollywood.

●

RICHARD PERRY has been appointed New York salesman for Eagle-Lion.

●

DAVID O. SELZNICK has returned to Hollywood from New York.

●

JIM BELLO has resigned as Warner office manager in Atlanta.

News Briefs . . .

SECOND United Artists board meeting this month has been set for today following a quick trip to the Coast made by Gradwell Sears, president, who left here on Friday and is expected back in time for the session. It is held likely that the company's disputes with independent producers reportedly seeking to have their product distributed elsewhere are on the agenda. UA has served summonses on Cagney Pictures, both individually and jointly with Warners, and on Enterprise.

Wilshire, New Production Company, Formed on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Wilshire Productions has been formed here with a schedule calling for six pictures during the next two years, and with releasing arrangements yet to be set. James Doane is president; Arthur Desser, vice-president; H. B. Garfield, board chairman; David H. Garfield, treasurer, and George McCall will be in charge of production. W. M. Collins, former Ohio theatre operator, will be in charge of sales.

Philippine Owners Protest Price Cut

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Protests of Philippine exhibitors have forced the Philippine Government to suspend, "pending further consideration," a new, reduced scale of admissions.

According to a Commerce Department report prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden, members of the Manila Theatres Association have challenged the legality of control over admissions, declaring that if the new rates are enforced, theatres could not meet minimum operating expenses.

See Wayne Coy Replacing Denny as Head of FCC

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—President Truman's nominee for Federal Communications Commissioner will be Wayne Coy, longtime associate of Paul V. McNutt, it is understood here. FCC head Charles R. Denny resigned recently.

Coy, radio director of the *Washington Post*, was assistant to President Roosevelt as liaison officer of the Office of Emergency Management.

Expand FC Distribution

OMAHA, Dec. 15.—Ellis Shafton of Film Classics, has set up headquarters for Omaha and Des Moines here. Booking will be handled out of the Omaha office and shipping from Des Moines.

Rogers-Sonenshine Deal

Budd Rogers, vice-president of Realart Pictures, has negotiated a franchise for the Denver-Salt Lake City territories with Jack W. Sonenshine, president of Embassy Pictures in California. Sonenshine's Salt Lake City office is managed by Harry Kerer, and an additional office will soon be established in Denver.

WITH the dismissal of six studio publicists, Columbia has begun to implement an economy measure planned by company heads in New York and Coast conferences several weeks ago. An approximate 25 per cent overall reduction is expected.

William A. Keyes Will Be Honored by Dayton Variety

DAYTON, Dec. 15.—Local Variety Club, Tent No. 18, will honor chief barker William A. Keyes at a testimonial banquet at the Biltmore Hotel, here, tomorrow. Toastmaster will be William McCraw, executive director of Variety International. Invitations to attend have been sent to international chief barker R. J. O'Donnell and Gov. Thomas J. Herbert of Ohio, among others.

$500 Worth of Door Prizes Slated for AMPA's Party

Various items, valued at over $500, will be given as door prizes at the Associated Motion Picture Advertiser's annual Christmas Party to be held at Iceland Restaurant here on Thursday, it was announced at the weekend by Robert Ungerfeld, chairman of the event.

Nebraska Theatre Burns

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 15.—Fire destroyed the Pioneer Theatre here. Mrs. Sam Goldberg was the owner.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Dec. 15.—Fire has damaged the Fox Theatre here, a Fox-Midwest house. A 1,600-seat theatre, which was undergoing remodelling, it was renamed recently from the Electric.

Transfer MPA Unit to NY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Motion Picture Association's research unit, headed by Robert Chambers, has been transferred back to New York. The units was moved here last spring. Lack of space here, plus a desire to be near distributors were given as reasons.

Depinet Drive Starts Friday

The 1948 RKO Net Depinet drive will start Friday with the three drive captains having already completed a tour of their territories: Walter E. Branson, in the Western division; Nat Levy, Eastern, and Charles Boasberg, North and South.

Filmack's Coast Studio Opens

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Filmack Trailer's Coast studio is now open for production. Joseph Mack is in charge.

Bishop Becomes a Kay Manager

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 15.—Joe Bishop, who has been with Universal for 15 years, has resigned his sales post to succeed William Talley as Kay Films' branch manager, here. Universal has not yet named a successor.

20th's Midwest and Lakes Units Combined

In line with the current policy of distribution companies to "streamline" field sales set-ups, the Midwest district of 20th Century-Fox has been consolidated under the Great Lakes district, following the resignation of Ward Scott, Midwest district manager, who asked to be relieved because of illness.

Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, in announcing the consolidation, said that the Midwest bran[illegible] Kansas City and St. Louis, will [illegible]come part of the Central division under Jack Lorentz, and will be supervised by Great Lakes district manager Tom Gilliam.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Lizabeth SCOTT
John HODIAK
Burt LANCASTER
'DESERT FURY'
TECHNICOLOR
IN PERSON
James BARTON
Extra!
Francis CRAIG
PLUS OTHER BIG ACTS

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by Technicolor
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th St.
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM · JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
EXTRA! LOUIS vs WALCOTT Fight Films

RAY MILLAND · MARLENE DIETRICH
in "Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
In Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

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Schine, Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

thus preventing outside interests "from operating in a manner in which they might otherwise be able to."

Denies Crescent Rule Applies

Bromley denied that the Crescent (Nashville trust) case controlled the final Schine decision on the ground that whereas the Crescent involved more than one partner[illegible] or corporation, the Schine Chain was owned by a single exhibition company. Wright, however, charged that the Crescent case completely controlled the Schine decision. The basic charge in both cases, he told the high court, was that "exhibitors had definitely combined closed and open towns for the purposes of creating a monopoly."

Questioned by Chief Justice Vinson, Justices Black and Frankfurter, Wright stated that the only difference between the two cases was that the Schine Chain was larger and more complex. He declared that he "read the Crescent decision" as meaning that theatres should be divested in this case, as stock was in the Crescent case.

When questioned by Frankfurter, and in answer to Bromley's charge, Wright admitted that he thought the lower court had been intimidated because counsel for the Schine interests declared that an order for divestiture would be "penal."

Arguing the case for the Griffith companies, Cochran declared that his case was "limited" by the fact that there were no charges of specific trade restraints. When questioned minutely by Frankfurter concerning master agreements employed by the Griffith licensing agent, Cochran maintained that the agreements pertaining to both playing pictures in the order of their release and licensing pictures on selective contracts followed accepted trade practice.

When questioned by Frankfurter during his rebuttal, Wright stated that the contracts created illegal consequences — in combining closed and open towns for purposes of favorable negotiations, and in "creating further discriminatory effects after terms had been made." In conclusion, he recommended court approval of any further theatre acquisitions by the circuit.

Of the three high court justices not present, Justice Jackson disqualified himself from participating in a decision, presumably because he had been Attorney General when the cases were prosecuted. Justices Murphy and Reed were ill.

Wright was accompanied by Phillip Marcus, Justice Department attorney in the anti-trust division.

Company Lawyers Observe

Among the spectators were various film company counsel including William Donovan, RKO; John F. Caskey and Otto Koegel, 20th Century-Fox; Louis Phillips, Paramount; Robert Perkins, Warner Brothers; Thomas Turner Cooke, Universal. Also, Sidney Schreiber and David Palfreyman, Motion Picture Association, and Arthur Swanick and Robert Rubin, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Although it was expected originally that arguments would carry over until tomorrow, they were concluded in four hours this afternoon, following the court's brief decision period at noon.

ATOI on Prices

(Continued from page 1)

support theatres when perforce they are showing run-of-mine pictures and who ought not be forced to pay increased admissions when the occasional so-called special attraction comes along," and it protested against a practice "which deprives exhibitors of control over their own scales and vests that control in persons remote from the communities served."

ATOI explained a growing number of road-show films places the theatre owner "in the critical situation of either having to deny his patrons an opportunity to see these pictures or else bearing the resentment and consequent loss from the public's reaction to this profiteering policy of the distributor."

Polacolor Demonstration

Polacolor, new process for color motion pictures, as developed by Polaroid Corp., Cambridge, Mass., will be publicly demonstrated today to an audience of producers and trade press representatives at the Preview Theatre here.

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Jan. 9 Arraignment

(Continued from page 1)

hazards, and inconveniences of an extra trip from the West Coast here. The District Attorney's office expects the trial to be set for late January or early February.

Industry Stand on Reds Lauded by Many Units

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Motion Picture Association President Eric Johnston has received word that the 5,000,000 members of the National Council of Women of the United States strongly support the industry's stand on subversive employes. In a letter received at MPA today, council president Mrs. Ambrose N. Diehl declared that the industry action is a "splendid demonstration of Americanism."

Commendation has also been received from Mrs. Leroy Montgomery, chairman of the Motion Picture Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Mrs. Lafell Dickinson, honorary president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; and Mrs. Dean Gray Edwards, chairman of the Fine Arts Department of the New York State Federation of Women's Club's.

Rejects Trial Delay

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—Federal Court Judge Roche today denied a request for postponement of the T. and D. case set for trial on Jan. 26. Theatco, Inc., is the plaintiff in the $1,300,000 treble-damage anti-trust suit against T. and D., Golden State, Fox West Coast, and all eight major distributors.

Small Eire Houses Face Tax Closings

Dublin, Dec. 11 (By Airmail)—Many of Eire's smaller exhibitors are contemplating closing if new admission taxes are put into effect on Jan. 16.

Last admission tax increase, in August, has so far resulted in decreased attendances at smaller houses. Dublin first-runs have not been badly hit, but suburban and country theatres have been affected seriously.

Decree Jeopardizes B. & K. Stage Shows

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Chicago Theatre management has given its 15-piece house orchestra and 10 stagehands a four-week notice in a contemplated move to abandon its stage show policy. A spokesman for Balaban and Katz said that notice is protection in the event that provisions of the Jackson Park decree make such a move necessary.

The house maintains that the court decision, which completely altered the local system of film booking and made it mandatory for B. and K. Loop houses to release their pictures to subsequent-run theatres after initial two weeks makes it almost impossible to support an elaborate stage show. The Chicago Theatre has featured stage shows for the past 25 years and is the only remaining Balaban and Katz house playing them. In the event "live talent" is yanked out, the only remaining Loop house to play stage shows will be Essaness' Oriental, which was not affected by the decree.

CMPS to Organize At Mono. Franchises

Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen will seek to organize salesmen employed by Monogram's 20 franchise holders, if and when the National Labor Relations Board certifies the Colosseum as collective bargaining union for film salesmen, a Colosseum spokesman said here.

The Colosseum has already organized most of the salesmen employed at Monogram's own eight exchanges.

Goldberg, Lesser Win Suit

Appellate Division of the New York County Supreme Court, ruling on the suit instituted by Goldwurm and Schwartz Corp., purchasers of the buildings in which the Little Carnegie Theatre here is situated, has decided in favor of Max Goldberg and Erwin Lesser, defendant operators of the theatre, and ordered that they be permitted to remain in possession of the premises for the next five years. Louis Nizer and Walter S. Beck were attorneys for the defendants.

Powers Leaving NSS

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Joe Powers associated with National Screen Service, Minneapolis, since he sold his Exhibitor Poster service to the company in 1940, has resigned effective Jan. 1, to devote his entire time to his own interests, which include theatre operations. Powers entered the business in April, 1928, when he acquired control of Exhibitors Poster exchange.

Chicago Exhibitors Must Absorb Tax

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Theatre operators here have been forbidden by the City Council to add the new city tax to the price of admission tickets. Hence, the local three per cent tax which will go into effect here on Jan. 1, will have to be paid by exhibitors out of their own pockets.

The council's "forbidding" action was unheralded and therefore came as a surprise to theatres. Earlier, City Council opponents of the tax had based objections on the fact that the tax would be added to the price of admission and thereby would fall directly on an already over-taxed public.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 15.—The exhibitors' committee here in charge of the campaign against a five per cent admission tax, has wired Mayor Kaufmann urging him to defer action on a "discriminatory tax on theatre admissions" as recommended by his legislation committee.

Occupation Tax in Lincoln Is Boosted

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 15.—The occupation tax on theatres here has been boosted up to 20 times, but the City Council has stipulated that this is in lieu of an increase in admission taxation, whch would have been far less preferable to theatremen.

They had been paying $25 yearly. The new scale is: 1,000 or more seats, $500; 600 to 1,000 seats, $300; under 600 seats, $100.

Columbus Income Tax

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 15.—Local theatres will have another deduction to make on payroll vouchers starting Jan. 1 when the city's new one-half of one per cent income tax becomes effective. Tax also will apply to gross profits of all local business firms. The tax is expected to raise nearly $3,000,000 annually.

Baltimore Tax Killed

BALTIMORE, Dec. 15. — The City Council has voted down the proposed five and one-half per cent tax on admissions. The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland put on an extensive campaign against the bill.

Lift 'Burning Cross' Ban

DETROIT, Dec. 15.—The Detroit censor board's ban on the Screen Guild production, "The Burning Cross," has been lifted, it was announced today by Albert Dezel, president of Albert Dezel Productions, Michigan distributor for the film. It was banned over a month ago.

Monogram Names Two

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—George Oller has been appointed manager of the Monogram office here, succeeding Rafael de la Cruz, and M. J. Messeri has been appointed Mediterranean area representative.

Set PCCITO Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—Annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will be held here next April 6-8, at the St. Francis Hotel.

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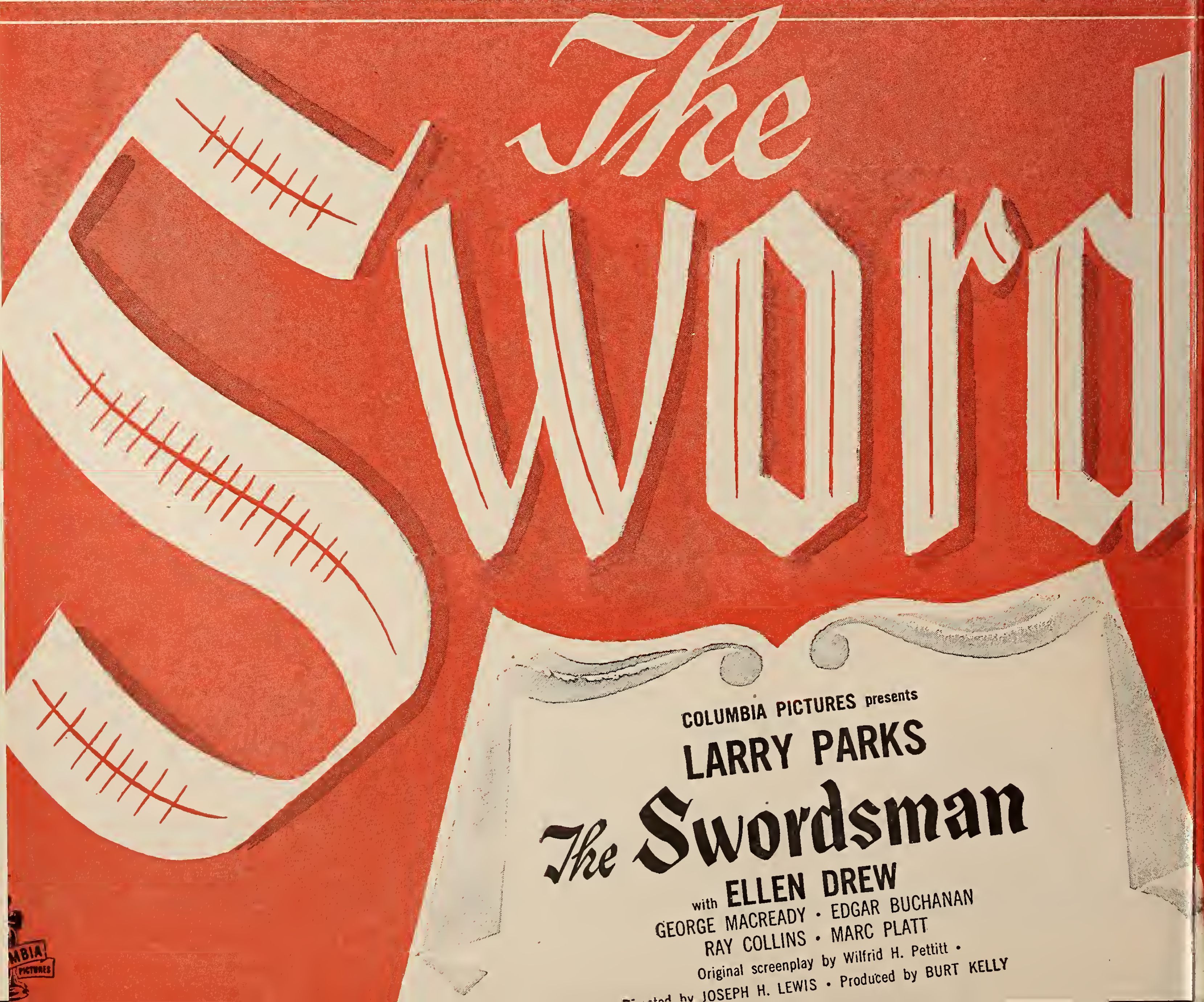

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Production on Coast Falls Off Slightly

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Studio activity lagged with the production index falling to 32 features in work from last week's 35. Work began on five new productions while eight were turned over to film editors.

Shooting started on "Trail to Laredo" and "Trapped by Boston Blackie," Columbia; "Heart of Virginia" Republic; "Arthur Takes Over," 20th Century-Fox; "Man-Eater of Kamoan," Universal-International. Shooting was finished on "Lulu Belle," Columbia; "Mickev," Eagle-Lion; "The Big City" and "State of the Union," M-G-M; "Death on the Downbeat," Monogram; "I, Jane Doe," Republic; "Velvet Touch," RKO Radio; "Up in Central Park," Universal-International.

N. Y. First Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

Park is good at $10,500. At the Victoria, two re-issues, "Belle Starr" and "Frontier Marshall," are doing fairly well with $14,000 seen for a first week. United Artists' Broadway is closed again.

Music Hall, following custom, draws heavier returns each week approaching Christmas with its Nativity pageant on stage and "Good News" on the screen. The third week's take probably will hit a robust $133,000. The Paramount is doing remarkably well with "Golden Earrings" and Ray McKinley and others in person, the second week's gross being estimated at $73,000. Estimated returns for other holdovers follow:

"Gentleman's Agreement" in a fifth week at the Mayfair, $40,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, fifth week, $29,300; "This Time for Keeps" with Paul Whiteman's orchestra, Capitol, second week, $51,000; "Captain Boycott," Winter Garden, second, $17;000; "Out of the Past," Palace, third, $25,000; "It Had to Be You," Connee Boswell topping the stage bill, at the Roxy, second week, $45,000.

"Green Dolphin Street," Criterion, ninth week (6 days), $18,000· "Life with Father," Warner, 18th, $10,000; "Mourning Becomes Electra," Golden, third, $10,500; "Unconquered," Rivoli, 10th, $18,000; "Red Stallion," Gotham, third, $7,000; "Nicholas Nickleby," Little Carnegie, third, $6,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 17th, $5,000.

Paul Hannon Dies

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 15.—Paul Hannon, film salesman in this area for 25 years, who was associated with Paramount, United Artists and, most recently, Eagle-Lion, died at Greenfield, Mo., yesterday. In addition to the widow, who operates the LaBelle Theatre, Lyons, Kans., survivors include a daughter and a son, Paul, Jr., Monogram salesman in Kansas City.

Val Nearpass, 54

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Val E. Nearpass, 54, associated with W. R. Frank and Oscar Woempner in the operation of Frank and Woempner Theatres in the Twin Cities and Minnesota, died here last week.

Reviews

"I Walk Alone"

(*Wallis-Paramount*)

INDIVIDUAL exhibitor experience probably is the best guide to the box-office prospects of a tough-talking underworld drama bursting at the seams with violence. In that classification, this is a slick and effective one, with good production values and a cast headed by Burt Lancaster and Lizabeth Scott.

Following a 14-year stretch in prison, Lancaster decides to pick up some old threads and collect his half of a split promised by his old prohibition-day partner. The former partner, now a suave and successful nightclub operator, played by Kirk Douglas, has other ideas. He tries to ease Lancaster out of the picture, first with subtlety and psychology, then with muscle and vengeance. The deadly conflict developing between the two give the film its dramatic intensity and rapidly-paced tempo. Caught in between, with shifting loyalties, is Miss Scott, the club's pianist and vocalist.

The film proceeds to its climax with a minimum of plot complexities, turning up a varied assortment of characters and getting in some good atmospheric scenes, including dark and shadowy alleys and nightclub interiors. At the chanteuse, Miss Scott cavorts in some elegant gowns and gives a throaty rendition of "Don't Call It Love."

A Hal Wallis production, others in the cast include Wendell Corey, Kristine Miller and Mike Mazurki. Byron Haskin directed, from a screenplay by Charles Schnee. It was based on an original play, "Beggars Are Coming to Town," by Theodore Reeves.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Jan. 16.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Dangerous Years"

(*Wurtzel—20th Century-Fox*)

A THOUGHTFUL attempt is made in this Sol M. Wurtzel production to probe the causes of juvenile delinquency, and in that direction it does a meritorious service. However, as entertainment, the film's overall effect is somewhat diluted by a lack of narrative freshness and depth. It is likely to click better with small city than metropolitan audiences. Probably a fruitful exploitation angle would be a tieup with civic and welfare organizations.

The story has a group of small town youngsters fall under the influence of a flashy young chap with some slick ideas of his own on how to get ahead. William Halop plays the delinquent, and under his leadership, they rob a warehouse. When an intruder happens on the robbery scene, Halop kills him. A trial follows and the leader is sentenced to a life term. In an ironic twist, it develops that the juvenile thug, an orphan, is the son of the district attorney. Story and screenplay by Arnold Belgard suggests that the boy fell into criminal ways because of psychological yearnings denied him in childhood. Among other juvenile principals are Ann E. Todd, Anabel Shaw and Scotty Beckett. One outstanding role is performed by Jerome Cowan, as defense lawyer. Arthur Pierson directed and Howard Sheehan was associate producer.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

M. H.

"Cheyenne Takes Over"

(*PRC—Eagle Lion*)

WITH the occasional help of his ever-ready whip, "Lash" LaRue makes it pretty uncomfortable for an outlaw who has taken over a ranch by killing the owner and pretending to be the dead man's heir. The film is a standard Western with the normal amount of chases, fisticuffs, and bad men getting shot. As LaRue's sidekick, Al (Fuzzy) St. John provides the customary clowning.

As a slightly different touch, the screenplay presents pretty Nancy Gates as the local tavern keeper, and it is through her help that the heavy, George Chesebro and his henchmen, are eventually brought to justice. Arthur E. Orloff wrote the original screenplay, which was directed by Ray Taylor and produced by Jerry Thomas.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 13.

M. H.

"For You I Die"

(*Arpi—Film Classics*)

Hollywood, Dec. 15

ARPI PRODUCTIONS, a partnership formed by Robert Presnell, Sr., and John Reinhardt, with no intention of putting M-G-M out of business forthwith, proffer the Film Classics customers, in this first of their films, a melodrama spaced out with sessions of romance, humor, homespun philosophy, and even some homely singing to cottage organ accompaniment. When it veers from these tenderer themes to violence, as it does at the start and finish, it has impressive impact, and it possesses in whole the not inconsiderable virtue of being different from the run of comparable product.

The players are Cathy Downs, Paul Langton, Mischa Auer, Roman Bohnen, and assorted support, Langton turning in the best performance. He plays the less criminal of two criminals who have escaped from a penitentiary, and after hiding out at a remote bus stop, and being befriended and counselled by the kindly folk who live there, he captures his fellow escapee and turns him over to the law, going along back to prison to serve out his own term. The incidents and conversations in which his reformation is accomplished take up most of the footage, but when the picture is active it is very active. Partners Presnell and Reinhardt produced the picture, the former also writing it and the latter directing.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Short Subject

"Border Without Bayonets"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

In these troubled times, a border without fear and fortification i[illegible]n unusual thing. In an interesting [illegible]ject, the producers of This Is America examine the 5,000 miles of border between the U. S. and Canada.

In a highlight, the film focuses on the town of Calais, which lies half in Maine and half in New Brunswick. In this little community everyone is virtually a citizen of both countries, crossing over borders for shopping, visiting, etc., without a barrier. Running time, 16 minutes.

Lloyd to Capitalize On Reissue Trend

Distributors' increasing attention to reissues has captured the fancy of Harold Lloyd, who intends to cash in on the new trend which has been inspired by economic manifestations of the British *ad valorem* tax impasse. Lloyd sent his manager, John L. Murphy, to New York to set up distribution arrangements for re-release of five pictures in which the producer-comedian starred.

In the vanguard of the five is "Movie Crazy," which has passed "sneak" preview tests on the Coast and has been similarly treated in New York, according to Murphy. The others are "Welcome Danger," "Feet First," "The Catspaw" and "The Freshman." All but "Freshman" are talking pictures, and all will be re-edited and provided with new musical scores, where needed, Murphy said.

Murphy has returned to Hollywood.

Canada Gross

(*Continued from page* 1)

eight per cent higher than the net of $55,430,711 recorded for the year previous. Paid admissions during the year numbered 227,538,798, an increase of almost six per cent. All figures do not include drive-in theatres, for which no figures are as yet available.

About 50 per cent of the 1,477 theatres were owned by individuals or firms operating only one theatre and these accounted for 19.2 per cent of the net receipts and 21.5 per cent of all theatre attendance. Theatres operated by firms owning from four to 19 theatres comprised 11.7 per cent of the total and had 11.9 per cent of total receipts as well as 12.8 per cent of admissions. Twenty-five per cent were operated by firms owning 20 theatres or more and these obtained 59 per cent of the net receipts and admitted 56.3 per cent of all persons attending theatres.

Mitchell Resigns

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing four years as pictorial chief for the War Department Bureau of Public Relations. Prior to his Army service, Mitchell was vice-president and editorial supervisor of Triangle Publications after having served in various capacities with newspaper and magazine publishers and as free-lance writer, publicist and reporter.

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 117 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

NY Appellants Restate Same Arguments

None Will Depart from Original Objections

Approaching the final round in the Government's anti-trust case, defendant distributors have either completed, or will have completed by tomorrow, the printing of appeal briefs for filing with the U. S. Supreme Court by next Monday. Robert Wright, Department of Justice attorney, in Washington, told a New York film company lawyer here yesterday in a telephone conversation, that he "might have" his document ready by that deadline; it is held unlikely, however, that he will go beyond Monday.

All appeal briefs are limited to an elaboration and particularization on arguments which the Government and the companies presented to the high court at the time the latter was asked to take jurisdiction of the New York case last spring. These arguments

(*Continued on page 6*)

SWG Will Fight Firings in Court

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16. — Screen Writers Guild membership, in a meeting which ran to early morning, adopted resolutions commiting the Guild to oppose all forms of "blacklisting" and participate in legal action to be taken by writers discharged in consequence of the Congressional indictments. A third motion for drafting a Guild statement of policy on the matter was passed, reconsidered, and then tabled.

Guild will seek to act as *amicus curiae* in civil suits which discharged writers have announced their intention of filing against former employers.

Opposition to "blacklisting" will in-

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA-National Deal On Two Pictures

Quick weekend trip to the Coast by Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists president, resulted in a booking arrangement between the company and Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, on "Sleep My Love" and "Body and Soul" after Skouras had objected to terms. Specific nature of the deal was not disclosed although

(*Continued on page 8*)

Sullivan Presides at New KC Unit Meet

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 16.—Over 100 independent exhibitors in the Kansas City exchange territory met at the Hotel Philips here today with a view toward establishing an organization which, it is expected, will request affiliation with national Allied. O. F. Sullivan, Wichita, chairman of the organizing committee named two months ago, presided.

Speakers, who discussed advanced admissions, Ascap, local checking, clearances, print shortages, block selling in the face of the decision in the industry anti-trust suit, overhead and other subjects, included: H. A. Cole, Texas; Sydney Samuelson, Pennsyl-

(*Continued on page 6*)

'Flaws' in Mundt's Bill Slows Action

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Senate Foreign Relations committee bogged down today in its attempt to get the Mundt bill into shape for passage early next session. Film industry leaders hope the bill will be used to solve frozen-funds problems abroad.

One committee member said that the group had found the bill as passed by the House "extremely loosely drawn," and that most of the time had been spent on going over basic

(*Continued on page 6*)

BRITISH WOULD END RENTERS' QUOTA

Many Innovations Set For Exhibitors; Documentaries Favored

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Text of the new film quota bill which has been introduced in the House of Commons, and which would abrogate the present renters quota, was disclosed here today for the first time publicly.

Bill, calling for 10 years' enactment, purports to provide for continuance of existing exhibitor quota acts in principle, but actually effects substantial innovations.

In lieu of present distinctions of long and short films, the bill provides separate quotas on "first features" and "supporting program features," first features being calculable by the number of days of exhibition and supporting program features on footage.

The quotas, fixed by the British Board of Trade after consulting the Films Council, also require affirmative resolutions by both houses of Parliament, with any alteration to be ordered three months before the quota period begins. The bill is scheduled to become law on April 1.

The bill gives authority for higher percentages for "special quota theatres."

"First features" are further defined as long films of at least 3,000 feet. If more than one long film is in a pro-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Eady, Allport Resume UK Tax Talks Today

London, Dec. 16.—American Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport and the British government's Sir Wilfred Eady will resume their *ad valorem* tax settlement talks at the British Treasury tomorrow afternoon after a long delay.

Mexico Increases Film Import Levy

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 16.—Representatives of the 11 American distributors operating in Mexico late last night succeeded in averting paying a 100 per cent increase in the Mexican government's import duty on motion pictures.

Faced with an increase of $4 per kilogram over the former $4 rate, the distributors appealed to the American Embassy, which induced the government to agree to only a slight increase of 50 cents per kilogram, which the Americans expect will prevail under the new restrictions.

Canadian Programs Are 57% Double Feature

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—Double features continued to form the larger proportion of performances in Canadian film theatres last year, though there was a slight drop in the percentage compared with the previous year—from 59.4 to 57.4 per cent, according to an official report by the Canadian government.

Popularity of the double bill varies considerably in different provinces, more double than single-feature performances being given in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia while, in the other provinces, singles predominated in varying degrees.

While 21 per cent of all houses showed only doubles, they accounted for 34 per cent of total net receipts and 37 per cent of the total attendance. Another 16 per cent showed less than 50 per cent single bills, obtained 17 per cent of the receipts and 19 per cent of attendance. Theatres showing all or more than 50 per cent single features numbered 938.

Excise Tax Changes Are Made by Canada

Ottawa, Dec. 16. — Some modifications in the excise tax program have been announced by the Canadian Government, indicating that the 25 per cent excise tax on electric or gas refrigerators, refrigerating components, oil burning equipment and oil burners generally will apply only when adapted, among others, to places of film and other entertainment, amusement or recreation.

At the same time, the tax will be extended to cover air-conditioning, cooling or filtering equipment for the same use.

Truman Proclaims Tariff Concessions

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—President Truman today by proclamation provisionally ordered into effect Jan. 1 new tariff concessions covered by the agreements negotiated with seven countries at the recent Geneva Trade Conference.

The seven nations must take similar action to make the treaties fully effective.

A general agreement which also may go into effect on Jan. 1 contains various measures designed to protect film shipments, while the treaties with Canada and France contain tariff concessions on films.

Personal Mention

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S. and a member of Pathe Industries board, will leave here today for Cleveland for a meeting of Pathe directors.

•

ELMER F. BLAKEY, of Nashua, N. H., has been appointed chairman of the motion picture committee assisting in the state's campaign for $1,000,000 for a contemplated crippled children's hospital at Greenfield, N. H.

•

BOB RITZERT, assistant manager at Loew's Globe, Bridgeport, has been transferred in the same capacity to Loew's Bijou, New Haven, replacing TONY MASSELA, who has been transferred to the Poli, New Haven.

•

BORGE IVERSON has been named manager of R. D. Goldberg's State Theatre in Omaha. He was previously manager of Tri-State's Fort Theatre, Rock Island, Ill.

•

JOE DILORENZO, Daly Theatre Corp. district manager, Hartford, has returned to his post after recovering from serious injuries sustained in an auto accident.

•

JACK KUSSMAN, former 20th Century-Fox short subject booker in New Orleans, has joined Screen Guild there as head booker.

•

MARTHA GILL, Universal home-office receptionist, is convalescing at Flushing Hospital, Flushing, L. I., following an appendectomy.

•

RUSSELL MORGA of the Shelby Theatre, Louisville, and LUCILLE BORDERS will be married in that city on New Year's Eve.

•

BERT TURGEON has been transferred from Jacksonville, Fla., to Salt Lake City as Paramount office manager-booker.

•

ARMAND DEUTSCH, producer, and his actress-wife, BENAY VENUTA, have returned to the Coast from New York.

•

JOEL BEZAHLER, assistant to M-G-M general sales manager WILLIAM F. RODGERS, will return here tomorrow from Chicago.

•

ROBERT LYNCH, M-G-M Philadelphia district manager, was in town yesterday.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subjects sales manager, is due back here Saturday from Chicago.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO Radio advertising-publicity head, will leave Hollywood today for Denver.

Bergman on Economies

Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director of Universal-International will explain reasons for economies in the film industry to the American Veterans Committee at the Hotel Taft here, tomorrow night.

News Briefs . . .

PENDING the appointment by Paramount of a new national director of advertising-publicity to succeed Curtis Mitchell, who has resigned, effective in January, company vice-president Paul Raibourn will realign and coordinate the advertising-publicity and exploitation departments. This was disclosed here yesterday by Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

FPC's Fitzgibbons Here to Set Theatre Video Plans

TORONTO, Dec. 16. — J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has left here for a conference in New York with Paramount executives to formulate plans for the introduction of television entertainment in the principal theatres of the circuit. Application has been made for television licenses from Canadian Broadcasting Corp., government radio company.

Action likewise has been taken by Odeon Theatres of Canada for the installation of British television equipment in its newer houses.

Revisions on "Forever Amber" Completed by 20th Century-Fox

Revisions on all 475 prints of 20th Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" now playing or available for distribution, have been completed in accordance with objections of the Legion of Decency, A. W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, announced here yesterday. The film is now classified "B," or morally objectionable in part, following reclassification from the "C," or condemned list.

U-I Makes Video Subject

Universal-International claims to be the first major to make a special film for television use with its production of a five-minute short to promote its "The Senator Was Indiscreet."

It is the first of a series on forthcoming U-I productions for television, and is to be used on both National Broadcasting's station WNBT and Columbia Broadcasting's WCBS, both here. U-I is buying daily five-minute spots for the short leading up to the premiere of the film at Loew's Criterion here at the end of the month.

DeMille Loses Plea on AFRA

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—State Supreme Court today upheld a lower court's decision rejecting film producer Cecil B. DeMille's plea for injunctive relief from suspension of his membership by the American Federation of Radio Artists for his refusal to pay a $1 assessment to be used for political purposes.

Seeks Boston Video Outlet

In another step toward establishing a national television network, Columbia Broadcasting yesterday applied to the Federal Communications Commission for a video outlet in Boston. CBS already has an application pending for Chicago.

WITH Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, preparing to go to his home in Spokane on Sunday for the holidays and then go to Hollywood, an MPA board meeting in New York tomorrow is expected to be the last one for some time.

Meanwhile, Johnston has invited trade press representatives to a Washington luncheon on Saturday in honor of George Canty, State Department film adviser, who has been transferred to Bern, Switzerland.

Late Treasury Reports Lists $65,000,000 Assets Abroad

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Assets of the U. S. motion picture industry in foreign countries totalled $65,000,000 on May 31, 1943, according to a survey of American-owned assets abroad belatedly made public by the Treasury. It is understood that no later figures are available nor losses through war damage.

Treasury officials pointed out that this did not include royalties nor the value of films which happened to be overseas at the time the census was taken.

Georgia MPTO Pledges Aid in 'Dimes' Drive

ATLANTA, Dec. 16.—Through audience collections during the week ending Jan. 30, the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Georgia has pledged the cooperation of member theatres in raising more than $200,000 for the 1948 March of Dimes to aid the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. E. D. Martin, Columbus theatre executive, is chairman for the state theatre campaign.

O. K. Mason, Commonwealth Executive, to Retire Soon

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 16. — O. K. Mason, vice-president and general manager of Commonwealth Theatres since he and C. A. Schultz, president, organized it 15 years ago, will retire from and dispose of his interests.

His health has not been good for several years, and while not particularly bad now he is quitting work "to enjoy life."

Zimbalist Names Sherman Classics Representative

Al Sherman, film consultant and public relations counsel, has been named Film Classics' studio representative in Washington, by Al Zimbalist, advertising director.

Sherman is creator of the Sherman Plan for 16mm. film distribution, which recently was accepted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Academy Membership Closed

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—Board of directors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has closed the organization's membership rolls until April, after accepting 78 applications, bringing the total to 1,933.

Newsreel Parade

EMPEROR HIROHITO's visit to Hiroshima is featured in all current newsreels. Other items include Friendship Food for Italy, Cardinal Spellman's Christmas party for foundlings, and the transfer of U. S. gunboats to Greece. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 32—Russia takes drastic steps to combat inflation. Emperor Hirohito sees atom bomb city of Hiroshima. Admiral Nimitz retires and Admiral Denfeld succeeds him. Leonard Lyons presents $50,000 check to Cancer Fund. Mrs. George Skouras rechristens Friendship Foodship. Cardinal Spellman's Christmas party for New York foundlings. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 230—Hiroshima today: atom bomb city hails Emperor Hirohito. Greek navy gets six U. S. gunboats. Six saved in Labrador plane crash. Friendship Food for Italy. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 33—U. S. transfers gunboats to Greek navy. A million ducks invade Louisiana rice fields. Emperor Hirohito visits first atomic bomb target. Australia sheep dog champion. Big Four parley fails.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 100—Emperor Hirohito visits Hiroshima. Greeks get U. S. warships. Twenty-one die in Memphis air crash. Admiral Nimitz receives Distinguished Service Medal from President Truman. Survivors of Labrador plane crash arrive in Washington. Cardinal Spellman holds Christmas party for homeless children. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 35—Emperor Hirohito visits Hiroshima. Miss Hush revealed. Friendship Food for Italy. Cardinal Spellman's Christmas party for children. Ski centers prepare for winter. Football.

475 Film Theatres In Indianapolis

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Total capacity of 282,485 seats is represented in the 475 film theatres in the Indianapolis area, according to a theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association is releasing today.

The directory, 13th in a series of 31, reveals that the area's three largest cities: Indianapolis, Louisville and Fort Wayne, account for 106 theatres, with a capacity of 91,786. Some 146 theatres in the territory are located in 142 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. Theatres in this group account for 46,859 seats, an average of 321 per theatre.

J. E. Kelly Passes

Funeral services will be held at Campbell's Funeral Parlor here tomorrow noon for James E. Kelly, associated at various times with the old KBS and Select production organizations and with Paramount Theatres. Kelly, who died suddenly yesterday at Jackson Heights, L. I., was a brother of Burt Kelly, Columbia producer. Other survivors include the widow, his mother, and a son, George.

Thomas P. Durrell

Thomas P. Durrell, member of the RKO board of directors for the past six years, was found shot to death at his home here yesterday. Police said it was suicide.

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IT'S A BETTER WORLD ALREADY!

A gay hit at Radio City Music Hall and booked to play simultaneously in hundreds of theatres nationwide to celebrate New Years.

M-G-M presents "GOOD NEWS" · JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD, Patricia Marshall, Joan McCracken, Ray McDonald, Mel Torme · Color by Technicolor · Screen Play by Betty Comden and Adolph Green · Based on the Musical Comedy by Lawrence Schwab, Lew Brown, Frank Mandel, B. G. DeSylva and Ray Henderson · Directed by CHARLES WALTERS · Produced by ARTHUR FREED

U-I has the

Make a note today t

box-office attractions *read*

"THE SENATOR WAS INDISCREET"

U-I's hilarious follow-up to "The Egg and I" prize comedy hit of 1947.

"A DOUBLE LIFE"

Entered as U-I's nomination for the 1947 Academy Awards.

"SECRET BEYOND THE DOOR"

A fine motion picture planned to thrill audiences everywhere.

"THE NAKED CITY"

From Mark Hellinger who outdoes even "The Killers" in this production.

"A WOMAN'S VENGEANCE"

A tremendous drama and a startling love story for top entertainment.

"BLACK BART"

Color by Technicolor; action and romance by those who know how.

"CASBAH"

A sure-fire hit with intriguing action, music and romance.

"ARE YOU WITH IT?"

Another Broadway musical hit.

BIG ONES!

prepare for these big
and on the way for 1948

"UP IN CENTRAL PARK" The big Broadway musical smash more colorful than ever on the screen.

"ALL MY SONS" The Broadway prize play now a prize picture.

"ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST" The great stage property made greater in its filming.

"LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN" A throbbing love story.

"RIVER LADY" Color by Technicolor; showmanship by those who know how.

"MAN-EATERS OF KUMAON" A hit picture from The-Book-of-the-Month best seller.

"TAP ROOTS" One of the great spectacular dramas; color by Technicolor.

Watch following announcements for
the full cast of these productions

Universal International

UK Quota Bill

(Continued from page 1)

gram, the first feature is the one carrying the larger rental. If rentals are equal, the "first feature" is the one shown last in the program. Any quota film must be screened at least once between five P.M. and 10 P.M. daily. First feature is defined also as one whose studio labor expenditure cost at least 10 shillings (about $2) per foot.

Theatres whose average net weekly grosses do not exceed 100 pounds ($400) are exempted from provisions of the bill. Power has been given the BOT to specify lower quotas for theatres in situations highly competitive with circuits.

"Special quota theatres" comprise circuit houses and London's West End showcases and other pre-release theatres. The bill will make these liable to higher quota rates, with circuit houses further liable by obligation to show in addition to their own affiliated product up to six features annually from independent producers nominated by a BOT selection board.

BOT May Include 16mm.

The BOT is given authority to include substandard films in the quota provisions.

Although quota orders will last one year, exhibitors will be required to make half-yearly returns. This is for the purpose of preventing the showing of British films in non-remunerative seasons only.

The bill provides for reduction of the Films Council's membership from 21 to 19, and the producers' and unions' representation will be increased as a result, with the reduction aimed at so-called independent individuals.

The existing informal agreement between circuits not to acquire further theatres without governmental consent is made mandatory under the bill, BOT sanction being required for the expansion of any circuit beyond 200 houses.

The bill demands that renters must charge separate rental on each film delivered to exhibitors. Reissued film older than four years is not entitled to a quota ticket without special sanction.

Sets Up Four Categories

The bill envisages a possible four-decked quota: firstly, circuits or "special quota theatres"; secondly, showcases or "special quota theatres"; thirdly, ordinary theatres; fourthly, theatres in highly competitive situations.

The bill was designed in part obviously to severely curb circuit influence and assumedly to encourage short subjects and documentaries.

Second reading of the bill is expected in Commons late next month, and thereafter all Parliamentary stages, including House of Lords consideration, will necessarily be rapid, in view of the bill's being designed to become law on April 1.

Although criticism of the bill's details is likely during debate, most exhibitors currently regard intensive opposition as largely a sham fight until the American film embargo is lifted, and they maintain that without a flow of American pictures the quota law is not only virtually a dead letter but their businesses are faced with ruin.

Would Extend Present Quota

Significantly, BOT officials propose extension of the existing exhibitors' quota until the end of Sept., 1948, manifestly awaiting an *ad valorem* tax settlement before fixing new percentages.

Paradoxically, the bill is escaping heavy criticism now, but periodical House of Commons resolutions must necessarily be fixed from time to time, and the quota inevitably will provoke severe opposition from rival interests. For example, producers are expected to press for a heavier quota, with resistance coming then from exhibitors —but particularly if, as is to be assumed from speeches made by Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps, the government proposes to afford special treatment of Cripps' much-favored documentaries.

British Moving in On US in Norway

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—British films are a growing threat to the predominance of U. S. pictures in Norway, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report.

The study, prepared by film consultant Nathan D. Golden, attributes this to two factors: the relative sufficiency of Norway's supply of pounds sterling in contrast to the shortage of dollars, and the study by British film interests of the Norwegian market.

American films are criticized, the U. S. report says, as appealing to a low degree of intelligence and as having little relation with real life.

The report cites the recent agreement between the Motion Picture Association and the Norwegian Municipalities Film Control, providing that all U. S. films shown in Norway during 1947-48 would be subject to a flat 30 per cent rental. It was also agreed that the showing of U. S. films will be continued as long as attendance at the seven p.m. and nine p.m. showings represent 50 per cent of the theatre's capacity.

Swiss Put Rental Ceiling on Films

Washington, Dec. 16.—Swiss authorities have established a film rental ceiling of 50 per cent of theatre receipts for distributors, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report.

The report, issued by Nathan D. Golden, department film consultant, says that in pre-war years, U. S. film rentals in Switzerland totaled about $1,000,000 yearly, but he estimates that this is much higher now since Germany has been temporarily eliminated as a competitor.

Mundt Bill Slowdown

(Continued from page 1)

ideas of the bill and that the committee had not even begun to consider various proposals to aid film producers, book publishers, magazines and newspapers in getting their remittances out of dollar-short countries. Another meeting is scheduled for Thursday, but the committee is not expected to get around to the funds problem even then.

Meanwhile State Department experts continue to pick holes in solutions that have been pressed by Rep. Mundt, the bill's sponsor. These are a scheme for the U. S. Government to use the blocked funds for running expenses overseas, along with an international currency exchange office.

Will Fight Firings

(Continued from page 1)

clude the use of all legal machinery available to the Guild, including injunctive proceedings to prevent any future firings caused by the implementation of the Eric Johnston-announced policy against employing persons who do the industry a disservice.

Dore Schary, Edward Mannix and Walter Wanger appeared at the meeting to explain employer policy, with Schary, who is an associate member of the SWG, speaking for the trio. Schary talked in favor of the adoption of a uniform policy by all Guilds, and a resolution based on this suggestion was drafted, but did not go to a vote. The next development in SWG's activity awaits a board meeting on Monday.

Thomas Promises New 'Red' Exposures

HACKETTSTOWN, N. J., Dec. 16.—Renewal of hearings on subversive activities in Hollywood beginning next month will be very different from the last series, Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, (R.-N. J.), chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, declared here last night at a Rotary-Kiwanis meeting.

"More will be named and more photostatic copies of Communist Party cards will be shown," Thomas was quoted as saying.

New Distributor Here

"Jenny Lamour", new French import, will be the first American offering of Foremost Films, organized by a group of distributors and importers of foreign-language films.

NY Appellants

(Continued from page 1)

were in the form of "assignment-of-error" documents in which the appellants cited alleged "errors" in the New York Federal Court's decision and its subsequent decree.

CIEA Asks to File

The Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, comprised mostly of Allied States affiliates, yesterday asked the high court in the Capital for the right to file as "friend of the court" and in so doing limited its argument to those points in the New York decision with which it originally had found fault. At the same time denial of the CIEA petition was asked in a motion by the five theatre-owning defendants. The court is to rule on this. CIEA wants divestiture and competitive bidding, but the latter only if it is on a flat-rental basis and accompanied by a ban on cross-licensing. CIEA general counsel Abram F. Myers represented the group.

The Department will pursue its fight for divestiture, and cross licensing, and against bidding and any clearances.

The five theatre-owning distributors will continue their objections to the New York Court's bans on price fixing, general clearance systems, and the ownership of interests in theatres of between five and 95 per cent. The five also aim for a reversal of the lower court's order to abolish the arbitration system. Four of the companies, Paramount being the exception, are appealing the order against pooling agreements between distributor-exhibitors.

3 Join Fight on Refusals

Columbia, United Artists and Universal join in attacking the 20 per cent cancellation edict when films are sold before being trade shown. Paramount accompanies them on this point, as it does in its objections to the ban on the sale of one picture being conditioned on the sale of another, and bidding. The three alone seek to have upset the New York court's injunction against arbitrary refusal of an exhibitor's demand for a run in a competitive area.

In an effort to avoid duplication in oral arguments, scheduled to be heard by the Supreme Court during the week of Jan. 15, attorneys of each company, individually, will lay stress on one or possibly two points with which others are in accord. Paramount will emphasize objections to the theatre-owning restrictions, its stand being the same as that of the other four majors.

K. C. Unit Meet

(Continued from page 1)

vania; John M. Wolfberg, Denver; Charles Niles, Iowa; Ben Berger, Minnesota, and Trueman Rembusch, Indiana. Cole outlined Allied's history and services.

Samuelson gave a demonstration of the workings of Allied's Caravan with data showing prices paid by theatres of various classifications.

Administrators, Far East film exchanges. Film distribution and/or theater management experience req. Two year contract, transportation paid. Dependents cannot be taken. Salary $100-$118 wk., quarters and meals approx. $50 month. Call Barclay 7-3831 or write Personnel Director, Rm 400, 1405 K. St., N. W., Washington, 25, D. C.

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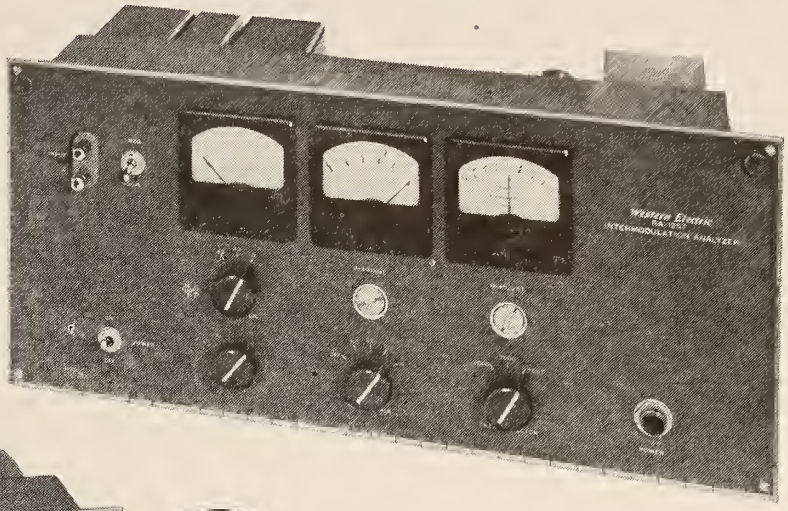

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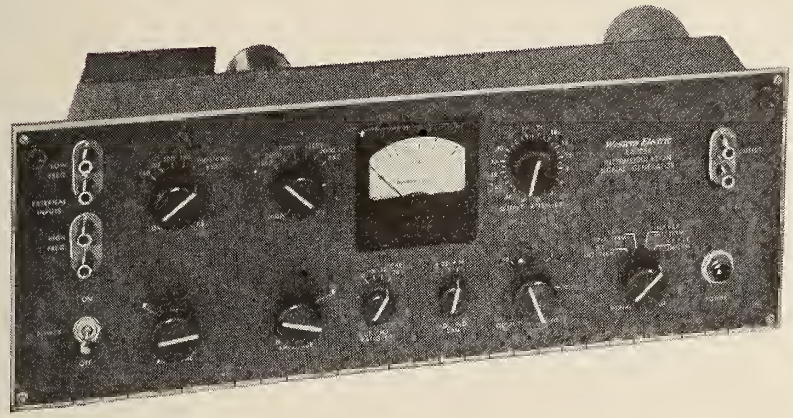

NEW SIGNAL GENERATOR

- High output rating
- No separate amplifier needed
- Four amplitude ratios between test signals

This new Western Electric Intermodulation Measuring Set, successor to the original intermodulation meter introduced by Western Electric nearly ten years ago, is designed to meet the exacting needs of the motion picture industry.

The RA-1257 Intermodulation Analyzer provides a single, direct meter indication of percentage intermodulation. It will operate on signal inputs as low as −30dbm, eliminating the need of a booster amplifier with its attendant intermodulation.

The phase meter included in the Analyzer indicates whether distortion is occurring in the positive or negative half of the signal, thus doing away with the need for a separate oscilloscope. Individual filters for the 2,000 cps and high frequency measuring circuits prevent objectionable noise from being introduced.

The single, stepless input control on the Analyzer provides the operator with one-hand control, leaving the other hand free to operate the multiplier on the percent intermodulation meter.

The RA-1258 Intermodulation Signal Generator provides a signal of two frequencies, the low between 40 and 150 cps and the high either 2,000 cycles or between 7,000 and 10,000 cps. Because the generator is capable of an output of +23dbm, no additional amplifier, which might introduce its own intermodulation, is needed. The amplitude ratio between high and low test signals can be set at 1:1, 1:2, 1:4 or 1:10, making available extremely high accuracy when desired.

Designed primarily for the control of film processing in motion picture work, this Intermodulation Measuring Set is a valuable tool in many fields where audio frequencies are employed. Write today for full information on the system.

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Para. to Introduce Polacolor Dec. 26

Polaroid's new color process, Polacolor, will be shown publicly for the first time on Dec. 26, when Paramount's one-reel cartoon, "The Circus Comes to Clown," will be released. Yesterday, Polaroid screened the film and explained commercial prospects before a group of trade press representatives and producers.

As explained by William H. Ryan, Polaroid research engineer, who invented the new method, Polacolor prints images on a single layer of black-and-white positive film from three separate color negatives. Use of essentially the same processing equipment employed in the production of black-and-white prints makes the process relatively inexpensive, Ryan said. Price to producers, he added, will be 5¾ cents per foot "in large quantities," and 13 cents per foot for "run" prints. Ryan said that "live-action" films are as yet "outside the scope" of the company's immediate plans.

Before a comparison can be made on a fair basis it would be necessary to see Polacolor's application to live action. As with Technicolor, there is sharpness and good definition to the colors under Polacolor judging from the film screened yesterday. C.L.F.

UA-National Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

it is known UA is asking 50-50 basic terms on both. "Sleep" was made by Triangle Productions, headed by Mary Pickford, Ralph Cohn and Buddy Rogers, and "Body" is an Enterprise offering. Skouras agreed to preferred playing time for both, it is understood.

Sears was back in town yesterday to attend a UA board meeting along with Miss Pickford, at which he relayed a report on British trade developments by Arthur Kelly, executive vice-president, now in London. Kelly went abroad on the matter of J. Arthur Rank's announcement of the purchase of capital stock in General Finance Corp. by Odeon Theatres. UA owns 25 per cent of the latter and Kelly is there concerning that interest.

UA directors yesterday authorized Kelly to act in any way he sees fit regarding the Odeon-GFC merger and ordered that he be appointed a director of the British subsidiary, United Artists Corp., Ltd., which owns the Odeon stock, thus giving him stock voting power.

The UA board received acknowledgment by producer William Cagney that he intends to release "Time of Your Life" through Warners. UA previously announced that in this event a legal contest would ensue on the grounds that Cagney had a distribution pact with UA when the picture was made. Warners has yet to answer a UA inquiry regarding its intentions concerning release of the picture.

Peter Cusack yesterday replaced Franklin Cole as a UA director.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles Cagney Prod. filed suit in Superior Court for declaratory relief from its distribution contract with UA. The suit asserts that a five-year contract, entered into March, 1943, bound the Cagneys to distribute through UA on the contingency that they would obtain financing from banks. Due to the unwillingness of banks to furnish funds any longer, the pact should be nullified, the Cagneys claim.

Reviews

"High Wall"

(*M-G-M*)

AN exciting and interesting show of sustained values about a bomber pilot accused of strangling his wife and the long chain of circumstances leading to establishing his innocence with the aid of Audrey Totter and modern medical practices. With the attractive Miss Totter, a psychiatrist here, and the amazing effectiveness of narco-synthesis, Robert Taylor had to come out topside. He does, to what will be obvious audience sympathy and satisfaction.

"High Wall," suggested by a story and play written by Alan R. Clark and Bradbury Foote, was passed along to Lester Cole and Foote for screenplay handling. The exact measure of each one's contribution is an unknown quantity, but together they worked up a tense and tight script, well written and plausible. In the hands of Robert Lord, producer, and Curtis Bernhardt, director, who did so well with "Possessed," the script springs to life with a flavor combining the elements of drama and the documentary. The results are there, and they are highly effective.

Taylor gets into difficulties when Dorothy Patrick, his two-timing wife, is found dead. Having suffered head injuries and surgery for them during the war, his memory is not all it might be. This mental confusion beclouds the truth and, for a time, even convinces Taylor he actually committed the crime. In the hands of friendly doctors and, more particularly in the pleasant talons of Miss Totter, Taylor finally stops resisting treatment and ultimately submits to narco-synthesis. In the background and forcing the issue is his young son who faces an unhappy future unless the truth is established.

Gradually the missing links are joined in one piece under Taylor's persistent pursuit of the truth. In this wise, he fixes the crime on Herbert Marshall. Assets of "High Wall" include believability, mood, and first-class performances delivered by a competent supporting cast embracing H. B. Warner, John Ridgely, Moroni Olsen, Vince Barnett, Morris Ankrum and Elizabeth Risdon.

Running time, 99 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Feb., 1948. RED KANN

"Always Together"

(*Warner Brothers*)

DESPITE a bundle of plot implausibilities, "Always Together" emerges as an enjoyable little farce about marital misunderstandings. The fable tells about an average working girl inheriting a million dollars, and though that were not enough, the scriptwriters have put in her pretty little head the notion that money may wreck her happy marriage. As for her novel-writing husband, however, he thinks it is perfectly wonderful for her to have a million dollars. And here is where the farcical conflict arises.

The Alex Gottlieb production has Robert Hutton and Joyce Reynolds cast as the romantic principals, with Cecil Kellaway and Ernest Truex in support. The complications get into high gear when wealthy Kellaway makes a death-bed gift to the girl because years back he had defrauded her father. The eccentric millionaire then recovers, and loving money as much as life, he tries to retrieve the million. En route to the happy ending, the story takes some surprise detours.

Winking at logic, Frederick De Cordova directed for farce effects, from an original by Phoebe and Henry Ephron and I. A. L. Diamond.

Running time, 78 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 10. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Heading for Heaven"

(*Ace Pictures—Eagle-Lion*)

STUART ERWIN who, in appearance and mannerisms, bears a striking resemblance to the late Will Rogers, stars in this modestly proportioned domestic comedy. Although the gags and situations provided in the screenplay by Lewis D. Collins and Oscar Mugge are essentially cliche material, Erwin gives a good account of himself, but he deserves better material. However, cliches notwithstanding, the ridiculous proceedings in this film are good for plenty of chuckles. Picture seems to be best suited for neighborhood houses, and should get a satisfactory reception in those spots.

Based on a play by Charles Webb and Daniel Brown, the story, which could stand tightening up, has Erwin as the last of a line of frugal landowners who have held tightly to their acreage at the Eastern end of town, speculating that the town "is bound to move Eastward." But over generations it builds up Westward. Adamant Erwin decides to let the property go for an airport when he hits upon the misinformation that he has only four months to live. Meanwhile a predatory Indian fakir, who rates high with Erwin's wife, played by Glenda Farrell, seeks to swindle Erwin out of the profits on the deal. Complications mount, what with Erwin, believed to be a suicide, turning hobo for a day; his brother-in-law heavy-handedly ruining deals, and a number of seances taking place. Rounding out the cast are Russ Vincent, Irene Ryan, Milburn Stone, George O'Hanlon and others. George Moskov produced for Ace Pictures. Jack Schwartz was executive producer, and Lewis D. Collins directed.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. For December release. CHARLES L. FRANKE

2 New PCCITO Trustees

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—Harold Chesler and Roy Firmage have been elected Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners trustees to represent the newly-affiliated ITO of Utah and Southern Idaho.

MGM Auditors to Meet

M-G-M will hold a meeting of field auditors Jan. 6-8 at the Astor Hotel, New York, with Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations, conducting the sessions.

Mexican Exhibitors Seek a Uniform Tax

Mexico City, Dec. 16.—Exhibitors have asked the third National Fiscal Convention, now in session, to make the tax on theatre grosses uniform throughout the country. At present the tax is 15 per cent in Mexico City and in some communities it is as high as 30 per cent. Exhibitors want a uniform 10 per cent tax collected by the Federal Government, which would be proportioned among municipal and state governments.

Eight Variety Clubs Elect New Officers

Albany, Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Columbus, Indianapolis, Memphis and Omaha Variety Clubs have each elected new officers.

New chief barker at Albany is Harry Lamont, who has appointed the following committee chairmen; C. J. Latta, Heart Fund; Charles Smakwitz and Arthur Newman, entertainment; Daniel Houlihan and Jack Bulwinkle, King-for-a-Day; Joseph Saperstein, finance; Saul Ullman, tickets; Dr. Samuel Kallifon, house.

E. E. Whitaker is Atlanta's new chief barker. Other officers elected are: O. C. Lam, first assistant chief barker; John Cunningham, second assistant; Fred Coleman, dough guy; "Babe" Cohen, property master; R. B. Wilby, O. C. Lam and E. D. Martin, clowns; Mack Jackson, national canvasman; W. K. Jenkins, alternate canvasman. Directors are: Paul Wilson, Dave Prince, Nat Williams, Martin, Ben Butler, John Fulton.

New chief barker at Baltimore is O. D. Nick Weems. Others elected were: Joseph C. Grant, first assistant; Fred Schmuff, second assistant; Chauncey Wolf, secretary; Spaulding Albert, treasurer; Frank J. Durkee, national canvasman; directors: Bernard Claster, Barry Goldman, Samuel Tabor, Mark Silver, Albert Vogelstein, William Myers. Convention delegates: Weems, Rodney Collier, with Tabor and Barry Boldman as alternates.

William J. Dipson was elected chief barker at Buffalo. Other officers elected: Myron Gross, first assistant; Harry L. Berkson, second assistant; John G. Chinell, treasurer; W. E. J. Martin, secretary; directors: Andrew Gibson, Phil Fox, George H. Mackenna, Dave Miller, Richard Walsh, Murray Whiteman.

Leo Haenlein succeeds George Anagnost as chief barker at Columbus. Others elected were: John Barcroft, first assistant; John Hardgrove, second assistant; Jacob F. Luft, treasurer; Arthur Robinson, secretary. Anagnost was named national canvasman and Virgil Jackson, alternate. Milton Jacobs and Leo Yassenoff were chosen delegates to the national convention, with William Pancake and Walter Miles as alternates. New board members: Floyd Gooding, Jackson, Yassenoff, William Pullin, Jr., Harry Simons and Robert Nelson.

At Indianapolis, Russell Brentlinger has been elected to succeed Sam Switow as chief barker. Other officers elected include Earl Herndon, first assistant; A. C. Zaring, second assistant; Thomas McCleaster, secretary; Albert Blocher, treasurer; directors: Marc J. Wolf, Ken Collins, Switow, Guy Craig, Irving Fendrich, Richard Frank, Sol Greenberg, Milton Kreuger, Burdette Peterson, Trueman Rembusch and Boyd Sparrow.

Memphis has elected a new board, from whose membership officers will be elected. The new board: Ben Bluestein, T. Oscar Baldridge, Ed Williamson, Tom O'Ryan, Herman Chrisman, Leonard Shea, David Flexer, Buster Hammond, Bob Bostick, Cliff Wallace and Bill Kemp. Herbert Kohn is chief barker at present, and is automatically a member *ex officio* of the board.

Frank Van Husen was elected chief barker at Omaha. Also elected: Joseph Scott, assistant chief barker; Oscar Hanson, dough guy; Gene Blazer, secretary; and Hymie Novitsky, Donald Shane, R. K. Stonebrook, Carl Reese, H. B. Johnson and Clyde Cooley, as canvasmen.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 118 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1947 — TEN CENTS

Mundt Bill Is No Guarantee Of Any Profit

Expect Measure Out of Senate Committee Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Any scheme worked out to help U.S. motion picture producers get frozen funds out of Europe will only be to guarantee the industry against loss, and will not extend to a guarantee of profit, State Department officials emphasized here today.

They hope the Senate Foreign Relations Committee tomorrow will report out the Mundt Bill, clearing the way for Senate passage early in January. The bill, under which the aid to film producers may be extended, has already passed the House.

The State Department thinks the Mundt Bill at present is broad enough

(*Continued on page* 4)

Companies to File On Colosseum Mon.

A 15-page brief contending that the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen's collective bargaining should be conducted separately by individual units within each company's 31 exchange offices, and holding that branch sales managers are unqualified for Colosseum membership under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Labor

(*Continued on page* 2)

NYC Filming Report Submitted to Mayor

New York City Commerce Commissioner Edward C. Maguire, acting in his dual capacity of coordinator of film production in the city, has submitted to Mayor O'Dwyer a formal report of findings and recommendations based on a survey of production possibilities here made by a committee of industry representatives headed by Maguire. This was disclosed yesterday by Sal Scoppa, president of the film council of IATSE locals in New York, who is a member of the Maguire committee.

Kansas-Mo. Group Formed; Will Seek Allied States Tie

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 17.—An independent theatre organization of Kansas and Missouri which will seek affiliation with Allied States Association was formed today at the Hotel Phillips here. Since approval by Allied is virtually assured, this will become the exhibitors organization's 18th affiliation.

O. F. Sullivan of Wichita, Kans., was elected president, and Larry Larson, Webb City, Mo., as vice-president by a board of directors named by the 45 members present. V. R. Stamm, Kansas City, was elected secretary-treasurer.

The members, who are obligated to pay $7,000 of which $4,000 was submitted with the applications, voted

(*Continued on page* 4)

Retroactivity Won By '644' Cameramen

Early settlement of the long-standing wage dispute between Eastern short subject cameramen and 20th Century-Fox, RKO Pathe and Universal appeared to be a certainty yesterday following a meeting here of company representatives and Walter Lang, business agent of cameramen's Local No. 644 (IATSE) before industry labor relations consultant Pat Casey.

The companies, which had been holding out for a mutually satisfac-

(*Continued on page* 2)

Answers to Gov't Are Filed by Schine

Washington, Dec. 17.—The Schine Theatre Circuit today filed with the U. S. Supreme Court its answers to the Justice Department brief in the Government's anti-trust suit.

The answer, a slim 50 pages compared with the 230 pages filed by the circuit originally, restated most of the points made during the oral argument on Monday.

Loop Moves Are At a Standstill

Distributors not immediately bound by the Chicago Federal Court's Jackson Park decree will refrain from seeking any specific exemptions at least until a new "set of circumstances" presents itself. Columbia attorney Irving Moross, upon his return from Chicago to the home office yesterday, said there are no grounds for appeal from the court's rejection of the company's bid to play "The Swordsman" two weeks beyond the edict's limitation of two weeks. However, he added, Chicago Federal Court Judge Michael Igoe rejected only the application for an exception on the one film and indicated he believes this is not a blanket ruling.

Spokesman for both Universal and United Artists state they have no intention of entering into any legal proceedings at least until necessity arises.

The three could book their product into four Loop houses with no re-

(*Continued on page* 2)

$19-Million Gross from Canadian Distribution

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—Some 21 Canadian distributing companies, with 91 exchanges throughout the Dominion, grossed $19,147,575 from film rentals and accessories last year.

Rental of 35mm. films accounted for $17,479,722; rental of 16mm. films for $1,173,170; revenue from sale of accessories, $370,250, and from other sources, $124,433.

Exchanges reported 2,785 films were released during the year, including 799 features, 390 newsreels, 327 cartoons, and 1,269 other films.

Of the 799 features, 638 came from the U. S., 24 from Great Britain, and 137 from other countries; black-and-whites totaled 748 and color films totaled 51.

Canada Trade Plans Seek 'Cooperation'

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—Proposals for a new trade agreement with the United States, while presented only informally to American officials, is in line with a general search for methods of "promoting mutually beneficial economic cooperation," Canadian Finance Minister Abbott said today.

Although details are not available disclosing how the proposals would affect films, informed quarters believe that the general policy will not be restrictive against U. S. films, but rather will encourage the American industry to spend more here for expansion of production and distribution.

M.P.A. Is Not Optimistic of U.K. Solution

Eady - Allport Tax Talk Adjourned Unexpectedly

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Motion Picture Association officials admit here privately that they are not too optimistic of any steps to solve the British *ad valorem* film tax situation growing out of today's meeting in in London between Britain's Sir Wilfred Eady and the MPA's Fay Allport.

They believe that Eady granted the interview to Allport more as a matter of courtesy than because the Labor Government is willing to "talk turkey" on the 75 per cent levy which caused American film companies to place an embargo on exports to England.

They feel Sir Stafford Cripps has efficiently killed any chance of effecting a compromise in the near future.

LONDON, Dec. 17. — The British government's Sir Wilfred Eady and the American Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport today adjourned their discussion of a settlement of the British *ad valorem* tax impasse following an 80-minute ses-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Taylor Calls Ascap Board Meet Today

Board meeting of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has been set for today by Deems Taylor, president, but it is doubtful whether consideration will be given to new theatre license rates.

Primary purpose of the session is to declare royalty payments and this, to-

(*Continued on page* 4)

20th-Fox Has Half Of '48 Films Ready

Twentieth Century-Fox will have completed over half of its production schedule for 1948 release by Jan. 1, the company announced here yesterday.

At present 11 features are either in pre-release engagements or being readied for distribution.

Personal Mention

SAMUEL GOLDWYN left New York yesterday by plane for Hollywood.

◆

Paula Fraser, Paramount publicist and wife of Eagle-Lion copy chief George Fraser, is reported "doing nicely" following surgery at Mt. Sinai Hospital here.

◆

Maurice N. Wolf, assistant to M-G-M exhibitor relations chief H. M. Richey, has returned here from Joliet, Ill., and will leave for Boston tomorrow.

◆

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will address the United Theatre Owners of Illinois convention at Springfield, Ill., Jan. 8-9.

◆

Charles D. Prutzman, Universal-International vice-president and general counsel, will return here Saturday from the Coast.

◆

Jim Burras and Mrs. Burras, owners of the Isis Theatre, Crete, Neb., are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary.

◆

Charles W. Aaron, assistant to M-G-M checking head William G. Brenner, and Mrs. Aaron are parents of a daughter.

◆

Irving Maas, Motion Picture Export Association general manager, is expected back here next week from Europe.

◆

George F. Dembow, National Screen sales head, and his family will leave New York today to spend the holidays at Hollywood, Fla.

◆

Ronnie Wheeler, Movietone newsdesk secretary here, and William Smythe of the newsreel's Washington bureau, have been married.

◆

Jack Bernard, former salesman for Eagle-Lion and Kay Films, New Orleans, has joined Screen Guild in that city as salesman.

◆

Norman McCleod, Paramount producer-director, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

◆

John King has been appointed assistant manager at E. M. Loew's Plymouth Theatre, Worcester, Mass.

◆

Robert Montgomery has been made a Knight of the French Legion of Honor.

◆

Al Lichtman, M-G-M producer, is in town from the Coast.

President Films Names 2

President Films' board of directors has elected Barend Broekman as general manager, and Max Tak as head of production.

Broekman was formerly with Orange Films in Paris, controlled Cinetone Film Studios in Holland, and also was in distribution.

Bergman Cites Four Cost-Cutting Steps

Asserting that the dismissal of "low-priced workers" by the motion picture industry was "false economy," Maurice Bergman, Universal - International Eastern advertising-publicity director, yesterday called for the cutting of production costs from the top downward as the answer to the film industry's problems. He spoke at a meeting of the Motion Picture Chapter of the American Veterans Committee at the Hotel Taft here on the subject, "Are the Economies Effected by the Motion Picture Industry Necessary?"

He suggested four steps to realize this cut in costs: resourcefulness on the part of the studios in the conception of pictures and reduced costs of properties and talent; discourage the agent; encourage new stars, directors and producers to offset the prices paid for "names"; and creative publicity and advertising, departing from the "old stereotypes."

He attributed the current slump in the industry to the restrictions in the foreign market.

Filing Date Jan. 15. For State Censor Post

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 17.—Two and a half years of tug-of-war between the New York State Education Department and the Civil Service Commission over the type of examination to be given to fill the post of director of motion pictures (censoring under the Education Department have resulted in a compromise. An inter-departmental promotion examination has been announced by the commission, with the closing date for applications set for Jan. 15.

Applicants must be permanently employed in the state service competitive class for one year at a minimum salary of $4,620. The director's salary starts at $6,000, rising to $7,325 in five years through increments.

The directorship has been vacant since April 1, 1945, when Irwin Esmond retired, and is currently filled by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, who is reaching his 70th birthday.

Canada's Per Capita Film Spending, $6.15

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—Per capita expenditures on film entertainment in Canada reached $6.15 last year, up 38 cents from the year before, and was $1.14 higher than in 1942, according to the Canadian government. Expenditures in the various provinces ranged from $3.17 for Prince Edward Island to $8.10 per person in British Columbia.

County Blocks Drive-Ins

Montgomery, Md., Dec. 17.—A $1,000 annual license fee for outdoor theatres and a ban on showing films outdoors after 11 P.M. has been voted by the county commissioners here, after a group of citizens protested plans of Washington exhibitor Sidney Lust to erect a drive-in in this county. The ordnance takes effect Jan. 10. Units backing the ordinance held that outdoor theatres increased juvenile delinquency.

News Briefs

FUN, gifts and entertainment will mark the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' annual Christmas Party to be held starting at noon today at the Iceland Restaurant here. An unnamed film star will play Santa Claus at the affair which is under the chairmanship of Robert Ungerfeld.

Ungerfeld's promise: "Everyone will receive a present."

21 Companies Are Added To TESMA Membership

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Roy Boomer, secretary of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, reports that TESMA has enrolled 21 new members, as follows:

Associated Ticket and Register, Autocrat Speaker, Coca-Cola, Control Engineering, Globe Ticket, Hewitt Rubber, Hopkins and Woods, Knoxville Scenic Studio, Maharam Fabrics, J. E. McAuley, Motion Picture Machine, Murch Electric, Nu-Screen, Perfo Mat and Rubber, Poblocki and Sons, Pronto Pop Corn Sales, Charles Ross, T. and C. Co., Hanns R. Teichert, Vio-Glo Plastics.

Three Realart Franchises Complete Its Network

With the finalization of new franchise deals, Realart has established a national distribution set-up, Budd Rogers, vice-president, discloses. E. V. Landaiche will handle Realart product in the New Orleans territory through Liberty Films, while Frank Childs will distribute in the Omaha, Des Moines and Kansas City territories through Selected Pictures. Joe Levine, president of Embassy Pictures will handle distribution in New England.

Four U. S. Producers Slated To Use Mexico's New Studio

Mexico City, Dec. 17.—Four unnamed Hollywood companies will make four pictures, two in English and two in Spanish, at Mexico's newest studio, the California-Mexico, at Tijuana, on the San Diego-California border, Santiago Martinez, the studios' chief, announced here. He declined to mention names of the companies but he asserted that each picture will cost $500,000 and that work will start before spring.

Pathe Laboratories 'Housewarming'

Pathe Laboratories will give a "housewarming" at its office here tomorrow on the occasion of the opening of additional offices in the building. Nick Tronolone, company operations chief, will be host.

E-L's 'T-Men' Preview Tonight

Secret Service agents, New York officials and local police will comprise tonight's audience at a special preview here of Eagle-Lion's "T-Men," which will open soon at the Criterion Theatre.

QP Staff Reception Tonight

Staff members of Quigley Publications will hold their annual Christmas party tonight at a reception and dance at Radio Frank's Ciro's, here.

Theatre Video By Groups to Cut Cost

Expense involved in theatre television of news events would be important in itself but not prohibitive in the light of possibilities offered by television now, Paul Raibourn, president of Television Productions, Paramount subsidiary, declares.

Following Raibourn's demonstration of Paramount's process of photographing a boxing match direct from a video receiver and processing the film on 35mm. stock in 66 seconds, Paramount executives say they envision a number of theatres, beginning with the New York area, joining in a program to relay key television attractions, with all sharing the cost. The next Joe Louis bout was mentioned, scheduled for June.

Principal expense item expected involves clearance of rights from promoters of events coverd, in addition to arrangements with television companies, it is understood.

Raibourn indicated that Paramount is not interested in marketing the special equipment which it has developed.

Companies to File

(Continued from page 1)

Act, will be filed with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington on Monday by Howard Lichtenstein, labor attorney representing all distributors but Monogram. Lichtenstein said he believes David Benzor, Colosseum attorney, will file a brief calling for bargaining on a companywide basis and maintaining that the managers are qualified for membership in the union.

These respective stands were taken by the companies and by the Colosseum at a hearing held in New York recently before NLRB officer Robert Silagi, and the briefs will serve as formal statements of the positions.

It is expected that Monogram's labor attorney, David Bursten, will not submit a brief but will rely on Lichtenstein's brief as a statement of the general distributors' viewpoint.

'644' Cameramen

(Continued from page 1)

tory $35-per-week increase to become effective on Jan. 1 next, agreed to the union's demand that the increase be made retroactive to last July 1. At present the cameramen receive $165 per week.

Results of yesterday's meeting are expected to be approved by the local's membership at a meeting scheduled for Monday evening here.

No New Loop Move

(Continued from page 1)

strictions since only the six Balaban and Katz theatres in the first-run belt are bound by the decree. However, the four unaffected are the Grand and Palace, both operated by RKO; the Oriental, which is situated at the far end of the Loop, and the Woods, which has a policy of playing one film, such as "The Bishop's Wife," over an extended period.

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"The TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE" is your next WARNER BROS. picture. Mister, it makes us super-proud. Humphrey Bogart has a new kind of adventuring role that's positively his No. 1 performance of all time. In every department everything about it says "socko"! *Plan for the Trade Show Jan. 5!*

"THE TREASURE OF
THE SIERRA MADRE"
starring
HUMPHREY BOGART
and
WALTER HUSTON · TIM HOLT · BRUCE BENNETT
Screen Play by John Huston • Based on the
Novel by B. Traven • Music by Max Steiner
Directed by
JOHN HUSTON
Produced by
HENRY BLANKE

Mundt Bill

(*Continued from page* 1)

to allow the Administration to work out a plan on the frozen funds with the companies affected, and they, along with Rep. Mundt himself, hope the Senate and House will leave the language broad rather than try to specify any one plan. The Department's experts think none of the plans advanced so far offer any substantial solution, and want to do considerable more spadework and consulting with film companies before committing themselves to any scheme.

The bill as drawn gives the Secretary of State unlimited power to "provide for the preparation and dissemination abroad of information about the United States," and urges the Secretary to encourage information distribution by "private individuals and agencies." This wording, the Department's lawyers declare, is more than broad enough to cover any scheme that may be finally worked out—whether purchase, subsidy, or some complicated exchange arrangement. And, the Department officials remind, the effectiveness of any scheme will depend on the size of the appropriation voted by Congress, because the Mundt Bill is just an authorization, and the scheme must still hurdle the very high barrier of the Appropriations Committee.

MPA Not Optimistic

(*Continued from page* 1)

sion, reportedly to enable the latter to consult MPA president Eric Johnson. Both Sir Wilfred and Allport refused bluntly to make any comment on what had transpired between them today.

Meanwhile, MPA international chief Gerald Mayer arrived here today from Prague, and Allport is expected to take advantage of Mayer's presence for a full discussion of the tax settlement problems before the latter sails for New York on the *S.S. Queen Mary* on Friday.

British Treasury sources said unofficially that today's Eady-Allport conference was "not unhappy" and was conducted in a hopeful atmosphere.

Schine Post for W. Myers

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 17.—Willard Myers, formerly with Strong Electrical Co., has been appointed engineer of the Schine Circuit's construction department, by Dewey Lederer who has succeeded Guy Selmser as department director. Selmser was honored with a farewell dinner at the Ten Eyck Hotel here recently.

New Canadian Theatres

OTTAWA, Dec. 17. — Contracts for the construction of new theatres in Canada during the first eight months of 1947 totalled approximately $6,658,000, far below the corresponding period last year.

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Reviews

"A Woman's Vengeance"

(*Universal-International*)

THE suspected and unsuspected impulses lurking beneath the mannered elegance of fashionable society, portrayed so sharply in the writings of Aldous Huxley, is brought to the screen in a mature and compelling drama. Adapted from Huxley's "The Giaconda Smile," the production is endowed with many merchandising assets, outstanding of which is a cast headed by the suavely-accented Charles Boyer, and including Ann Blyth and Jessica Tandy. The latter at present is the star of the new Broadway hit, "A Streetcar Named Desire." Zoltan Korda has given his production attentive treatment, and what emerges is cinema entertainment that refreshingly departs from standard screen cliches.

Dealing with a wealthy English squire and his invalid wife, the story unfolds against a background of excellent settings. Shortly after the sudden death of the wife, the middle-aged squire marries an 18-year-old girl, much to the injured astonishment of another woman who loved him secretly. These delicate details are transferred to the screen with emotion and understanding that never once exploit cheap sensation. As the story proceeds, a thwarted nurse fans suspicions as to the cause of the wife's premature death. The body is exhumed, evidence of poisoning is found, and there develops an iron-clad case of circumstantial evidence against the husband, with the thread of suspense tightening steadily through a courtroom scene and prison confinement.

As the murderess upon whom the final curtain falls retributively, Miss Tandy is magnificently believable. Very capable vignettes are contributed by Sir Cedric Hardwicke as the doctor and Mildred Natwick as the vengeance-thirsty nurse. Huxley also did the screenplay.

Running time, 96 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for January release. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Under Colorado Skies"

(*Republic*)

THE effulgence of Trucolor and tastefully designed sets place this two-fisted, gun-slinging Western a notch or two above the average saddle-saga. But the plot is quite average, with hero Monte Hale pitted against a band of desperadoes and striving magnanimously to conceal the fact that pretty Adrian Booth's brother is tied up with the outlaws. Miss Booth and Hale, you see, are sweethearts.

Action aplenty was written into the script by Louise Rousseau, and R. G. Springsteen directed with appropriate emphasis on pace. Eight cowboy ballads, capably rendered by Hale and The Riders of the Purple Sage, are fitted nicely into the proceedings.

William Haade makes a tough villain and LeRoy Mason a suave one. Paul Hurst endears himself as a good-hearted hotel keeper who befriends Hale. That they succeed is a foregone conclusion, Devotees of cowboy fare should enjoy fully the proceedings leading up to the outlaws' capture. Cast includes also John Alvin, Tom London, Steve Darrell, Gene Evans and others. Melville Tucker was associate producer.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 15. CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Chinese Ring"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Dec. 17

ROLAND WINTERS, the new Charlie Chan, gets off to a promising start in this typical tale of crime and detection based on the character created by Earl Derr Biggers and portrayed previously by the late Warner Oland and Sidney Toler. The new Chan plays the role a bit more forthrightly than his predecessors, relying somewhat less on makeup and more on performance for his effectiveness. His accession to the part should give impetus to the series.

This time the first murder, that of a Chinese noblewoman, takes place in Chan's home, and Chan is assisted by a detective (Warren Douglas) and a girl reporter (Louise Currie) in finding out the why and who of the mystery. Mantan Moreland, Victor Sen Young, Philip Ahn and Byron Foulger are other members of the numerous and well rounded cast. Produced by James S. Burkett and directed by William Beaudine, from a script by W. Scott Darling, the film gives an admirable account of its running time.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 6. WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Return, Most Beloved"

(*Grandi Film Distributors*)

AMONG the pleasant aspects about this Italian-made film about the life of composer Francesco Paolo Tosti are the dubbed voices of Ferruccio Tagliavini and Pia Tassinari, both now with the Metropolitan Opera House here. The tragic tale of doomed love is one that customarily goes well with the Italian film patrons, but as an art house entry, the film tends too often to tear emotions to tatters.

The story tells how the composer falls in love with a pupil, and when it develops that she is suffering from a serious illness, the composer's work suffers, then ceases. Eventually she dies, and the composer, inspired by a great love, writes the song from which the film derives its title. Some attractive outdoor scenes appear as the action shifts from London to Italy. Claudio Gora and Laura Adani share the principal roles with Germana Paolieri providing the romantic triangle. Guido Brignone directed.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience classification. M. H.

Ascap Board Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

gether with the fact that both Herman Greenberg, licensing chief, and Louis Frohlich, counsel, are out of town, gives rise to the belief that exhibitor contracts will not be taken up until after the holidays. Greenberg and Frohlich are in Minneapolis for the trial, to open tomorrow, of Ascap's infringement suit against Benjamin Berger.

New York Federal Court order postponing to Feb. 2 the trial of 165 exhibitors here against Ascap has been signed by Judge Knox.

Kansas-Mo. Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

to take steps towards affiliation with Allied States, to set up headquarters in Kansas City and to engage the services of a general manager.

In addition to Sullivan, Kansas directors are: Don Phillips, C. Bratton, Ben Adams, O. C. Alexander, Bill Blair and A. K. Smith. Besides Larson and Stamm, Missouri directors are: Jay Means, J. T. Glosen, Dan Payton, A. E. Jarboe and Louis Sosna.

The new unit, which will represent some 60 theatres, includes many exhibitors formerly affiliated with the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association.

$10,000,000 Project

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17. — Golden State Theatres, in partnership with T. W. Yutz, Salinas contractor, will build a $10,000,000 theatre and business development just north of Hollister.

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L. 62. NO. 119 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1947 TEN CENTS

U. S. May Not Ratify New Trade Charter

U. S. Wary of Hundreds Of Amendments Adopted

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. — Unless the Havana Trade Conference backtracks on some 801 amendments which it has adopted for the International Trade Organization Charter, there is a good chance the United States will not ratify the charter.

That is the opinion of U. S. State Department experts here.

It is of importance to the film trade since the charter is supposed to be the cornerstone of freer world trade, and includes a specific article ruling out all devices for protecting domestic films other than screen-time quotas.

All amendments adopted at the Havana conference, officials here say,

(*Continued on page* 3)

Paramount Slates 20 Films for 1948

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—Twenty top budget Paramount productions, preparations for which have been proceeding for some time, will be made during 1948, and the studio will enter the New Year with stories, casts, directors and other elements set for the entire year's program, Henry Ginsberg, studio head, announced here today.

Production plans are under way and stories are being developed for the initial Paramount productions which Frank Capra, George Stevens, Wil-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Dunn in New Sales Post at Eagle-Lion

Harold S. Dunn, circuit sales manager for Eagle-Lion for the past year, has been appointed to the newly-created position of assistant general sales manager, effective immediately, it was announced here yesterday by A. W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president. Creation of the post was necessitated by the increase of products, sales and sales facilities.

TOA Group For Jersey

With representatives of 61 New Jersey theatres in attendance, a Theatre Owners of America unit for that state was organized yesterday at a meeting held in New York. Maury Miller of Passaic was elected president, Adam Adams, Newark, treasurer, and Walter Reade, Jr., Red Bank, director on the national TOA board.

In his address at the meeting, Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, pointed out that the New Jersey unit has become the organization's 22nd state or regional affiliation since the founding of TOA last September. Some 15 additional organizations are affiliated unofficially, he added.

Endorsement of TOA's program on the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and on taxation and television was voted by the New Jersey unit.

Publicity Group Approved by MPA

Appointment of a public relations committee of the board of directors of the Motion Picture Association, to supervise a program of informational activities on behalf of the industry, was announced here yesterday by Eric Johnston, MPA president.

Directors of the committee are Nate J. Blumberg, chairman; Jack Cohn, Austin C. Keough, Sam Schneider and J. R. Vogel. Ex officio members are Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the advertising and publicity directors

(*Continued on page* 3)

Hopes for Tax Cut Jolted by Knutson Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Hopes for an admission tax cut were jolted today when House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson (R.-Minn.) introduced what is likely to be the official Republican tax-cut bill—without any mention of cuts in excise taxes.

As it now shapes up, the GOP strategy is to pass this tax-cutting bill early next year, and then late in the session possibly put through another tax "reform" bill. The latter might include such items as abolition of double taxation on corporate dividends and a change in the carry-forward carry-back provision on business losses. It will not, however, have any substantial tax cuts.

The Knutson Bill is confined almost entirely to cuts in personal income tax and gift and estate taxes, and author-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Ascap Still Working On New Music Rates

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is "still working on" a new music licensing arrangement for exhibitors, but actual completion of it and board approval or rejection is definitely off until after Jan. 1, an Ascap director said following a meeting here yesterday. The

(*Continued on page* 3)

U. S. Gave No Proof of Violation, Says Columbia

Asking that the New York Federal Court's injunctive provision against block booking be reversed, Columbia Pictures asserts, in a brief to be filed in U. S. Supreme Court, that the Department of Justice failed to offer a single document which justifies the court's finding that the defendant violated the Sherman Act on the block booking count. The appeal brief is to be served with the Solicitor General in Washington today and filed with the high court on Monday.

The company further declares that the record of the lower court litigation contains no proof that a single U. S. exhibitor ever suffered loss or dam-

(*Continued on page* 3)

704 Theatres Are In Cincinnati Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—There are 704 theatres with a seating capacity of 372,172 in operation in the Cincinnati territory, according to a theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 14th in the series of 31 directories, it reveals that 155 theatres, with a capacity of 119,700, are in the area's three largest cities: Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton.

Some 284 theatres are located in 264 towns with a population of 2,500 and under.

Break In UK Tax Impasse Still Remote

No Future Eady-Allport Conference Slated Yet

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

British *ad valorem* tax impasse is now as far from settlement as it was before the Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport and the British government's Sir Wilfred Eady had their 80-minute conference in London on Wednesday.

This was indicated by an MPA official at the conclusion of an MPA board of directors meeting here yesterday. The official said that MPA president Eric A. Johnston already had received a report of the Wednesday conference from Allport. Whether Eady and Allport will meet again is unknown, he added. His opinion was, however, that it probably will take at least several meetings between Eady and Allport before a settlement will be reached, if one is to be reached.

There are no plans at present for the heads of the MPA-member companies to go to London in connection with the tax impasse, the official said, adding that plans for such a trip will not be made until it appears that a settlement is near.

Johnston will leave here today for Washington.

Mundt Bill Ready For Action in Jan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will get a final "all-set-to-go" draft of the Mundt Bill in the first week of the new session of Congress in January, clearing the way for speedy passage of the measure early next session.

The Mundt Bill is the measure under which the U. S. State Department hopes to work out a scheme to

(*Continued on page* 3)

To Remit 33⅓% of Earnings in Sweden

An agreement with Sweden has been reached through the Motion Picture Association whereby 33 1-3 per cent of American film earnings there will be remitted to this country it was learned here in foreign department

(*Continued on page* 2)

Personal Mention

IRVING MAAS, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president and general manager, is due to arrive at LaGuardia Airport here Sunday from Europe.

•

MARVIN FOX has become manager of the Seattle Orpheum Theatre, replacing DELMO LARSON who moved to the Music Hall there, both Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres, while CLYDE STROUT has been switched to the Coliseum, succeeding JACK DUDMAN who went to the Music Box.

•

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, Loew vice-president, and JOHN MURPHY, general manager, are visiting Loew theatres in Louisville, Evansville and Indianapolis, from New York.

•

CLAUD MORRIS, Eagle-Lion special home office representative, has been assigned to set up cooperation of the U. S. Treasury for E-L's "T-Men," and is now in Washington.

•

RAY YOUNG, director of personnel and labor relations at Eagle-Lion studios, has arrived here from the Coast via American Airlines.

•

BERNARD KAMINS, advertising-publicity director for Jesse L. Lasky Production, returned to Hollywood yesterday from New York.

•

WINGATE COLLINS of National Theatre Supply, Charlotte, and MRS. COLLINS are parents of a son.

•

J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of Famous Players Canadian, has returned to Toronto from New York.

•

JACK JUNGMEYER, JR. of Alson Prod. left here yesterday for Hollywood.

•

MARY PICKFORD left New York for the Coast yesterday.

Wilcox Film Tops in UK

LONDON, Dec. 18.—*Kinematograph Weekly* today released its box office survey for 1947, revealing Herbert Wilcox's "The Courtneys of Curzon Street," starring Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding, as the top box office film in the British market. Next were "The Jolson Story," "Great Expectations," "Odd Man Out," "Frieda," "Holiday Camp" and "Duel in the Sun," respectively.

Swedish Remittances

(*Continued from page* 1)

circles yesterday. In effect this represents a 66 2-3 per cent freeze. Previously a 50 per cent freeze was in effect.

Approximately $3,000,000 was earned in Sweden in 1946. Under this agreement, which becomes effective Jan. 1, about $1,000,000 will be remitted here.

The agreement is a result of talks by Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA international division, with the Swedish authorities.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

JUST how bad is theatre business anyway? You get this popular, overall picture of the year about to pass into oblivion:

1.—Grosses are off about 25 per cent. That sounds terrible and would be unless compared with something. The something with which to compare might be many things. But if we take last year, we find it's about 25 per cent off 150 per cent. In turn, the 150 per cent refers to 1946 grosses as compared with the pre-war rush toward the stratospheric.

2.—Mediocre or worse attractions are dying like dogs. And that that's terrible, too. But only here and there do you find the individual realistic enough to acknowledge that mediocre or worse attractions deserve to die like dogs.

3.—Runs are no longer as extended as they used to be. There are economic factors impinging on the industry and these are largely responsible. Among these, of course, are availabilities of consumers' durable goods so long denied during the war years and the sharp increase in the cost of living. But here, too, only occasionally do you run across the individual practical enough to admit runs are shorter because the product lacks sufficient sustaining power to keep the runs where they once were. Try asking the man who sees 'em.

All this, by signals conspicuously on display, are taken to spell trouble. Lots of trouble.

■

But just how bad is theatre busines anyway? Here's one answer, all figures official:

At the TOA convention in Washington in late September, Spyros Skouras stated that 20th Century-Fox's profit for 1946 was $22,600,000. Of this total, National Theatres kicked in with $12,800,000. That's 56.66 per cent.

In his address at the Jack Kirsch dinner in Chicago last week, Skouras forecast a 20th-Fox net of about $15,000,000 for this year. National Theatres is expected to contribute about $11,000,000. And that's 73.33 per cent.

The '46 profit was based on remittances from abroad of more than $23,000,000. In '47, Skouras figures the foreign income will drop to not more than $20,000,000. Even by applying the difference of $3,000,000 to 20th-Fox's overall net for a hypothetical total of $18,000,000, National's $11,000,000 would mean 61.11 per cent of the parent company's earnings came from exhibition.

The obvious conclusion is that theatre business, in this company's experience anyway, was better this year than last despite the alarums and the breast beatings.

■

Addenda: Then there is one theatre operator who would pull the trigger on us if we ever divulged his name. He said the other day:

"Whaddyamean 'we reached 150 per cent at the peak? You mean something closer to 250 per cent, don't you?"

■ ■

One reason why the new Kansas-Missouri exhibitors' organization will seek affiliation with Allied, to which it looks for help:

"If a film company releases a picture that costs a lot of money, the company argues the rental should be in relationship to the cost, even though the picture may be a flop, and the producer wants the exhibitor to pay for his mistake. If the picture is produced on a low budget and yet produces large grosses at the box-office, the company argues the rental should be in relationship to what the picture will gross. When a high-budget picture is a flop the company does not make refunds to the exhibitor, so if exhibitors are smart they will not fall for an exorbitant film rental on a picture which they know is produced on a low budget just because it is a sleeper and draws big box-office grosses?"

And how are you?

■ ■

John Marlow, the Grand Opera Co. and Murphysboro Opera Co. defendants in seven percentage suits filed by as many distributors are ordered to produce books and records bearing on operations of the Annex and Marlow in Herrin, Ill., and the Liberty and Marlow in Murphysboro, in the same state, for six years prior to filing of these actions. This is by order of the U. S. court for the Eastern District of Illinois.

Name of the judge who signed the order:

WHAM!!!

Fleisler in New Post

Joseph Fleisler has been appointed Eastern representative and coordinator of publicity and promotion for the company recently organized by E. Claude Mills to produce "Tanga Neeka." The film will be released by United Artists.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall • Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'VARIETY GIRL'
BING CROSBY
BOB HOPE
ALAN LADD
IN PERSON
Dave APOLLON
Molly PICON
Jack CARTER

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT MITCHUM · JANE GREER
'Out of the Past'
EXTRA! LOUIS vs WALCOTT Fight Films

RAY MARLENE
MILLAND · DIETRICH
in
"Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
In Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

Gentleman's Agreement
20th CENTURY-FOX
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
GINGER ROGERS · CORNEL WILDE
It Had to Be You
★ PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ★
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Holland Exhibitors Protest High Taxes

Theatre owners in Holland are protesting sharp increases in entertainment taxes, scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1, and which, they assert, will ruin many of them, according to newspaper dispatches reaching here from Amsterdam.

The Dutch government has so far given no indication of modifying its tax program, which will increase the present levy of 20 per cent to rates [illegible] high as 50 per cent in some cases.

U. S. Gave No Proof

(*Continued from page 1*)

age by that type of licensing Columbia product.

Again attacking the Government's case, Columbia maintains that the Department did not call a single witness to testify concerning the legality or effects of group-picture sales.

Columbia counsel, Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, in the appeal document, also strikes anew at the New York Federal Court's competitive bidding edict, branding it as an injustice to independent exhibitors. He submits that the affiliated theatre, having been given the right to obtain product from its distributor affiliate without restrictions, is in a better bargaining position to obtain films from distributors other than those with which it is connected.

New Ascap Rates

(*Continued from page 1*)

session, he said, did not in any way concern itself with theatre contracts but rather with routine affairs of the society.

Assigned to drafting a new formula of determining license rates for theatres for presentation to the board are: Gene Buck and Donald Gray, directors; Herman Greenberg, licensing chief, and his assistant, Julius Collins, and Louis D. Frohlich, counsel, the latter in an advisory capacity. Both Greenberg and Frohlich are in Minneapolis and are not expected back in New York before the end of the month.

20 on Para.'s Schedule

(*Continued from page 1*)

liam Wyler and Leo McCarey will make next year. Cecil B. DeMille is entering preliminary preparations for a projected production.

Nine of the 20 pictures are cast and set to go into production immediately after the holidays. They are: "Abigail, Dear Heart," "It's Always Spring," "The Great Gatsby," Hal Wallis's "Sorry, Wrong Number," "Sorrowful Jones" with Bob Hope, "Tatlock Millions," Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald in "Diamond in the Haystack," "Mask for Lucretia" and "Dear Wife."

New MPA Unit

(*Continued from page 1*)

committee; and Ken Clark, MPA national director of information.

The committee will be under the direction of Johnston and the board and will work in cooperation with advertising-publicity directors of the companies. It is hoped to enlist the active participation of all elements in the industry. A program of this type was recommended by the advertising-publicity directors committee.

News Briefs . . .

LOEW'S will be the first company to appear for arbitration in the wage dispute with the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, when hearings begin here Monday before the American Arbitration Association. Dean John T. Madden will be the arbitrator representing the company, Albert Shepard will represent SOPEG, and Sidney Wolff the impartial arbitrator.

United Artists's arbitration begins on Jan. 29, to be followed by 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Paramount, Columbia, Republic and National Screen Service. Under a wage reopening clause, SOPEG is seeking a 30 per cent or $10 wage increase, whichever is higher.

AMPA Cites Jan Murray For His Hospital Work

Jan Murray, of films and stage, yesterday was awarded an honorary membership in the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers in recognition of his services in behalf of veterans' hospitals. Citation was presented by AMPA president Arnold Stoltz at the organization's annual Christmas Party, held at Iceland Restaurant here.

The occasion featured RKO Radio star Robert Ryan as "Santa Claus" in the distribution of door prizes, with Robert Ungerfeld, chairman of the affair, assisting. AMPA vice-president Phil Williams was toastmaster.

Warner Party Tomorrow

The Warner Club will hold its annual Christmas "Kiddie Party" tomorrow at the New York Warner Theatre. Home office employes, their children and grandchildren attend the party, where gifts are distributed to the children.

FILM producers seeking locations in New York are now receiving one-day service in having applications approved, city commerce commissioner Edward C. Maguire said here yesterday. He is also city coordinator of film producing activities.

This accomplishment, he pointed out, is a direct result of the work of the committee of film industry representatives who, in cooperation with Maguire, recently surveyed production possibilities here. Before they undertook the survey, location shooting in New York was snarled to the extent where it took weeks sometimes for an application to be approved.

E-L District Managers to Meet in New York on 'T-Men'

First two of Eagle-Lion's district managers to arrive here for home office conferences regarding the promotion of "T-Men" are Herman Beiersdorf of the Dallas-New Orleans-Oklahoma City area, and William Shartin, of the Cleveland - Albany - Buffalo - Cincinnati district. They will confer with A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity director, and Harry Kosiner, Eastern representative of Edward Small Productions.

Louis Film vs. Delinquency

Heavyweight Joe Louis, star of a yet-to-be-titled nine-reel feature designed to combat juvenile delinquency, yesterday reviewed the picture's first print at the Preview Theatre here at a private screening to which trade press representatives were invited. The film's producer, William Alexander, said releasing arrangements will be set shortly.

Mundt Bill

(*Continued from page 1*)

help film producers and publishers get frozen funds out of Europe.

At a meeting of the Senate group today, the bill was referred back to a subcommittee headed by Sen. Smith.

Both Sen. Smith and Rep. Mundt, the two chief backers of the frozen funds plan on The Hill, as well as State Department officials involved in the scheme, are convinced that the present bill is broad enough to cover any plan which the State Department works out, and that this broad grant of power is preferable to spelling out any specific scheme in the bill.

It was pointed out that if representatives of the various media, including films, have not agreed on any plan by the time the bill is passed, the seven-man advisory commission setup in the amended bill might be used to work out a solution. The commission includes a film representative.

J. Noel Macy has been assigned by the State Department to work out a solution with film producers and publishers on the frozen funds tangle.

J. G. Von Herberg, 71

SEATTLE, Dec. 18.—J. G. Von Herberg, 71, owner of a Seattle circuit, died here today after a week's illness. Prominent in local theatrical circles for nearly 40 years, he owned the Liberty and Venetian theatres, the Roxy in Ballard and the Rainier in Renton.

Knutson Bill

(*Continued from page 1*)

izing the community property method of tax computing.

The main hope for an admission tax cut now must center on the political "swapping" that will go forward next year to get the Knutson Bill through both Houses with enough votes to override any Presidential veto but in this swapping, GOP leaders say, theatres are well down on the priority list.

The House Ways and Means Committee has already received a bill from Rep. Dingell providing for the removal of all wartime excises, including the extra 10 per cent admission tax, but this is not given much chance of adoption.

President Truman today replied with a flat "No" to a question as to whether a seven billion dollar surplus justified a tax cut at this time. The President refused to tell his press conference, however, whether this meant he would oppose tax reduction.

New Trade Charter

(*Continued from page 1*)

tend to whittle down further the free trade scheme which the United States has been backing for the past two years. And that scheme has now been whittled down so far that the State Department thinks the U. S. can serve the cause of free trade better by refusing to sign the charter.

WOMAN HUNT!
HER CRIME? The most vicious of the Seven Deadly Sins!
"Tight action, suspense, has plenty of selling angles" ...THE EXHIBITOR
"A closely knit murder mystery" ...BOX-OFFICE
BERT M. STEARN presents
DRAGNET
with
HENRY WILCOXON
MARY BRIAN
DOUGLAS DUMBRILLE
VIRGINIA DALE
DOUGLAS BLACKLEY
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Directed by LESLIE GOODWINS
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The Big TECHNICOLOR Spectacle of 1948!

Dynamite drama in the world's mightiest setting — the untamed Andes! . . . The titanic struggle of a man who moved mountains, blasted tunnels, tamed floods, but who met his greatest challenge when a woman of luxury invaded his brawling world!

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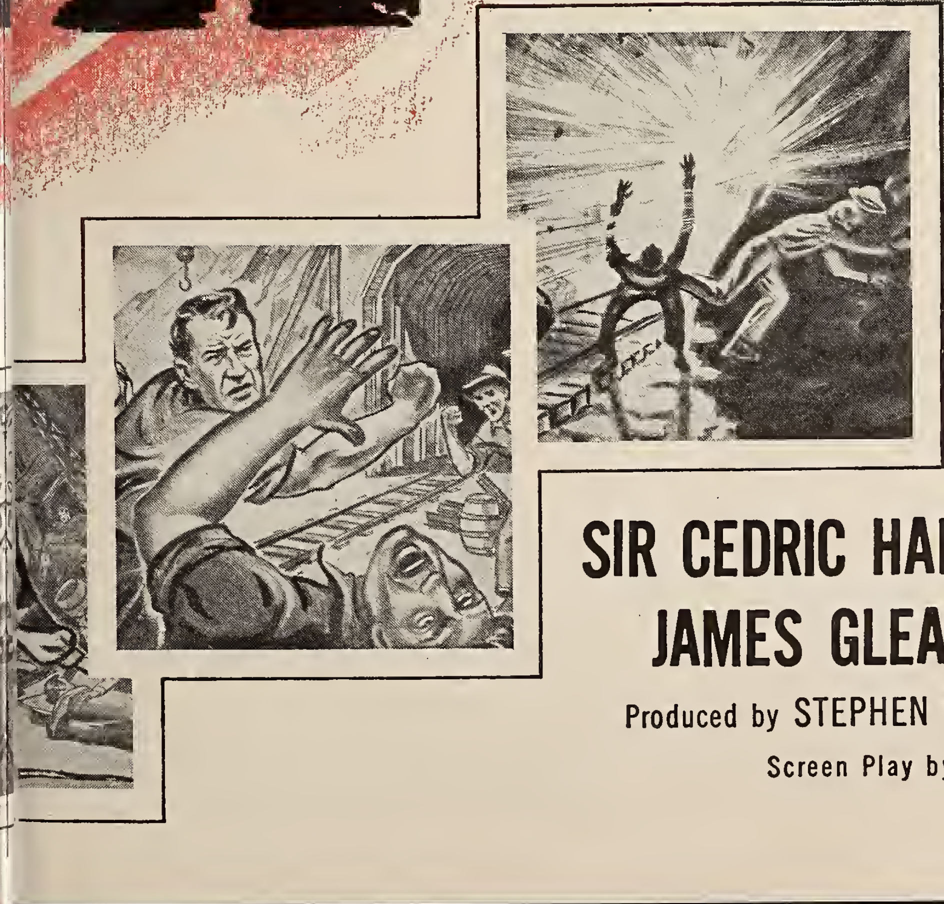

R K O
RADIO
PICTURES

with

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • JUDITH ANDERSON
JAMES GLEASON • ANTHONY QUINN

Produced by STEPHEN AMES • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE
Screen Play by BORDEN CHASE and JOHN TWIST

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 2	THE LAST ROUND-UP Gene Autry O—77 min. (981) (Rev. 10/7/47)			KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O			(Block 1) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)			THAT HAGEN GIRL Ronald Reagan Shirley Temple D—83 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	THE FIGHTING VIGILANTES "Lash" LaRue O—61 min. (Rev. 11/17/47) T—MEN Dennis O'Keefe D	(Nov. Releases) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)			THE FABULOUS TEXAN William Elliott O—95 min. (624) (Rev. 10/7/47)	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)		(Nov. Releases) THE EXILE Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maria Montez D—95 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D—103 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D—89 min. (Rev. 11/18/47) BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47)		(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47) BOWERY BUCKAROOS C—65 min. (625) (Rev. 10/20/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)	UNDER COLORADO SKIES (Color) Monte Hale O—65 min. (652) (Rev. 12/18/47)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)	(Nov. Releases) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)		
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D	SHADOW VALLEY Eddie Dean O—58 min. (Rev. 12/1/47)	GREEN DOLPHIN STREET Lana Turner Van Heflin D—141 min. (Rev. 10/16/47)			THE FLAME John Carroll Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)	RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)			THE UPTURNED GLASS James Mason D—87 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)	
Nov. 30		MAN FROM TEXAS James Craig O		THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D—68 min. (Rev. 12/18/47)	BIG TOWN AFTER DARK Philip Reed Hilary Brooke D—69 min. (4706) (Rev. 11/17/47)		CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Nov. Release) THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (Color) Lon McCallister D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		(Reissue) ANTHONY ADVERSE Fredric March Olivia de Havilland D—138 min. (Rev. 5/11/36)
Dec. 7	IT HAD TO BE YOU Ginger Rogers Cornel Wilde C—98 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	CHEYENNE TAKES OVER "Lash" La Rue O—58 min. (Rev. 12/16/47		JIGGS AND MAGGIE IN SOCIETY Joe Yule Renie Riano C		THE GAY RANCHERO (Color) Roy Rogers O	(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D—102 min. (806) (Rev. 11/12/47)	(Dec. Releases) ROSES ARE RED Don Castle D—66 min. (734) (Rev. 11/7/47)	(Bischoff) INTRIGUE George Raft June Havoc D	(Dec. Release) PIRATES OF MONTEREY (Color) Maria Montez Rod Cameron D—77½ min. (Rev. 11/14/47)	
Dec. 14	DEVIL SHIP Richard Lane D BLONDIE'S ANNIVERSARY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C		(Dec. Releases) KILLER McCOY Mickey Rooney Brian Donlevy D—105 min. (Rev. 10/27/47)	GUN TALK Johnny Mack Brown O		BANDITS OF DARK CANYON Allan "Rocky" Lane O—59 min. (Rev. 12/15/47)	DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (809) (Rev. 9/29/47)	DAISY KENYON Joan Crawford Dana Andrews Henry Fonda D—99 min. (731) (Rev. 11/25/47)			(Reissue) JEZEBEL Bette Davis D—103 min. (Rev. 3/9/38)
Dec. 21	ROSE OF SANTA ROSA Patricia White O		GOOD NEWS (Color) June Allyson Peter Lawford D—95 min. (Rev. 12/4/47)		ROAD TO RIO Bing Crosby Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—100 min. (4707) (Rev. 11/11/47)		SO WELL REMEMBERED John Mills Martha Scott D—114 min. (807) (Rev. 11/29/47)	(Reissue) TOBACCO ROAD Gene Tierney D—84 min. (744) (Rev. 2/21/41)		THE LOST MOMENT Robert Cummings Susan Hayward D—89 min. (Rev. 10/14/47)	MY WILD IRISH ROSE (Color) Dennis Morgan D—101 min. (Rev. 12/11/47)
Dec. 28		LINDA BE GOOD Elyse Knox Marie Wilson C—66 min. (Rev. 11/29/47)	(Jan. Releases) TENTH AVENUE ANGEL Margaret O'Brien George Murphy D	SMART POLITICS June Preisser Freddie Stewart D		MAIN STREET KID Al Pearce C	WILD HORSE MESA Tim Holt O—61 min. (808) (Rev. 11/17/47) OUT OF THE PAST Robert Mitchum D-97 min. (Rev. 11/17/47)	(Reissue) GRAPES OF WRATH Henry Fonda D—128 min. (745) (Rev. 11/25/40)	(Jan. Releases) (Triangle) SLEEP MY LOVE Claudette Colbert Robert Cummings Don Ameche D	BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr D—100 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	
Jan. 4	(Jan. Releases) THE SWORDSMAN (Color) Larry Parks D—81 min. (Rev. 10/17/47)	T-MEN Dennis O'Keefe D—91 min. (Rev. 12/12/47)	CASS TIMBERLANE Spencer Tracy Lana Turner D—120 min. (Rev. 11/5/47)	SONG OF THE DRIFTER Jimmy Wakely O					(Gainsborough) MAN OF EVIL James Mason Phyllis Calvert D	(Jan. Releases) THE SENATOR WAS INDISCREET William Powell Ella Raines Peter Lind Hayes C—81 min. (Rev. 12/15/47)	ALWAYS TOGETHER Robert Hutton C—78 min. (713) (Rev. 12/17/47)
Jan. 11	I LOVE TROUBLE Franchot Tone D—94 min.	HEADING FOR HEAVEN Stuart Erwin C—71 min. (Rev. 12/17/47)	IF WINTER COMES Walter Pidgeon Deborah Kerr D	ROCKY Roddy McDowall D (Allied Artists) SONG OF MY HEART Frank Sundstrom D	I WALK ALONE Burt Lancaster Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4708) (Rev. 12/16/47)	SLIPPY McGEE Donald Barry Dale Evans				CAPTAIN BOYCOTT Stewart Granger Kathleen Ryan D—92 min. (Rev. 11/24/47)	

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.*]

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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Talks Resume In New Turn On U. K. Levy

Limit of $20 - Million Remittances: Wilson

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 21. — A British Treasury spokesman said officially at the weekend that further British *ad valorem* tax settlement talks definitely will take place between the American Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport and the British government's Sir Wilfred Eady. At the same time, British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson asserted that the British Government is prepared to discuss any proposal for a tax settlement, but added that it would be impossible to accept an arrangement for remittances to exceed 4,000,000 pounds ($16,000,000) over and above the earned amount on foreign screenings of British films.

Although the British Treasury persists in refusing details of last Wednesday's Eady-Allport conference, it was learned authoritatively that its adjournment followed Eady's stipulation that, in arriving at a settlement

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Film Classics Will Have Own Studio

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Upon completion of an administration building at Nassour Studios, here, all production activities of Film Classics will center at that plant, a part of which will become Film Classics Studios.

Meanwhile Marie Quigley, former assistant to Trem Carr, production head of Monogram, will join Film Classics as West Coast production assistant to Joseph Bernhard, FC president.

Theatres Must Share Ad Costs: Schlaifer

MIAMI, Dec. 21.—Making the point that the exhibitor must take a rightful share of the responsibility of advertising costs, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, told a meeting of managers and executives of the Wometco Circuit, here, that in the face of increased production costs home office advertising departments can no longer

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Free Flow of Films Years Away: Rank

London, Dec. 21.—J. Arthur Rank said here at the weekend that whatever results from the British *ad valorem* tax settlement negotiations between the American Motion Picture Association's F. W. Allport and the British government's Sir Wilfred Eady, many years will elapse before there will be a free flow of films into Britain. He said he is doing all within his power to step up production at his studios to compensate for limited imports.

Coast Groups Meet On Public Relations

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Officers of the Screen Directors Guild, Screen Actors Guild and Screen Writers Guild will be the guests of the Producers Policy Committee at a Beverly Hills Hotel dinner tomorrow night to discuss the industry's internal and external public relations. The producers' group includes Dore Schary, Louis B. Mayer, Walter Wanger and Joseph M. Schenck. Edward Cheyfitz, assistant to Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, also will attend.

Roy Brewer, chairman of the recently-formed Hollywood AFL Film Council, conferred with producers in the first of a series of meetings last week aimed at a concerted endeavor to improve public relations.

Germany Prepares For MPEA Entry

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Dec. 15 (By Airmail.) — The Motion Picture Export Association is now working in closest cooperation with the Military Government's Film Control office, in anticipation of taking over the Film Control office's functions Feb. 1. At that time free competition in the film industry will be restored to the American-occupied zone, with U. S., British Interest and German firms competing.

Meanwhile, with the support of the city authorities and export circles in Hamburg, a Studio Cooperative has been formed to make studio space available to four Hamburg companies, Kamera, Real-Film, Junge Film-Union and Kosmos. The most recently licensed Hamburg company, Kammerspiel-Filmgesellschaft, will also share in the cooperative.

MONTH'S DELAY IN APPEAL ARGUMENTS

Berger Hits Ascap As 'Unreasonable' In Court Hearing

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—Evidence purporting to show that the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, contrary to its assertion in the Government's decree, has become "unreasonable" in its demands was introduced in District Court here on Friday by attorneys for Benjamin Berger, independent exhibitor and head of North Central Allied. The hearing in the so-called Berger-Ascap infringement suit was held before Judge Gunnar Nordbye who, at the conclusion of the day's session, gave

(*Continued on page* 9)

Stockholders Back Odeon-GCF Deal

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Odeon Theatres' stockholders at a meeting here on Friday ratified J. Arthur Rank's plan to have Odeon absorb his General Cinema Finance Corp. Vote was by acclamation. Although Arthur Kelly, United Artists' executive vice-president, who is visiting here from New York, was present at the meeting, he did not exercise UA's vote.

Robert S. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S. on Friday issued a statement at his New York office in which he termed Odeon stockholders' ratification of the GCF absorption deal "a personal triumph for Rank and a demonstration of complete confidence." Benjamin said that at the meeting Rank did not himself in any way vote the 2,600,510 shares which he controls. "Of the proxies voted," he explained, "1,547,885 voted for Rank's plan for Odeon acquiring GCF. Against the plan were 10,592 shares."

Studio Employment Said at Record Low

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Production slump has reduced studio employment to its lowest point in modern times, according to Central Labor Council Secretary W. J. Bassett, who estimates that between 12,000 and 16,000 are jobless. Studio workers of all classes are normally estimated at 30,000.

Wright, Others Are Ill, Gov't Brief Not Ready; Time May Become Costly

By GENE ARNEEL

Department of Justice has asked the U. S. Supreme Court for a month's postponement of final, oral arguments in its anti-trust case against the eight distributors, from the week beginning Jan. 12, and that this will be granted is regarded as a foregone conclusion both in Washington and New York.

Illness of Robert Wright, Government prosecutor of the case, and other key figures in Washington, necessitates the postponement, according to New York attorneys who were advised of the expected delay by the Department on Friday.

Although film companies are said to be anxious for the earliest possible disposition of the case, once and for all,

(*Continued on page* 9)

Paramount Profits 'Very Satisfactory'

Striking a note of optimism in a letter to stockholders, accompanied by a 50-cent fourth quarter dividend, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, reports that the company's earnings are "very satisfactory" when all factors are considered.

Worldwide revenues are off and costs are higher but because of the

(*Continued on page* 9)

Ohio ITO Joins in Attack on Ascap

Columbus, O., Dec. 21.—Allied's plan to frustrate Ascap's demands for higher fees has received approval of the board of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio. The Ohio organization is making available benefits of the Allied attack plan to all members on a voluntary basis.

P. J. Wood, executive secretary, declared members should state the theatres to be included, seating capacity of each and the highest admission price charged.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres president, and WOLFE COHEN, Warner International vice-president, left here over the weekend for Havana for the opening of a new Warner house there tomorrow.

●

LAZAR WECHSLER, Swiss producer, and MRS. WECHSLER and FRED ZINNEMANN, M-G-M director, are expected here tomorrow from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

●

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to M-G-M exhibitor relations director H. M. RICHEY, has returned to Boston from New York.

●

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subject sales manager, has returned to the home office from a tour of Midwest and Southern exchanges.

●

JACK THOMAS, manager of the Beechwold Theatre, Columbus, O., and MRS. THOMAS are parents of twin daughters.

●

IRENE THIRER, *New York Post* motion picture editor, is recovering from a lengthy illness and is expected to return to her desk shortly.

●

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, left here at the weekend for the Coast.

●

H. J. COCHRAN, Altec inspector in Cincinnati, and MRS. COCHRAN are celebrating their 22nd wedding anniversary.

●

PETER GREGORY, manager of the Crest Theatre, Crestline, O., is recuperating from an appendectomy.

Paramount Video Case

Paramount and Television Productions have been given another extension, to Jan. 8, to answer cross complaints of Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur Levey, president of the company, which the latter filed within the framework of the Government's suit against both companies. Other defendants are Scophony, Ltd., of London, and General Precision Corp., New York. Consent decree settlement of the case is expected.

Bear to War Dept.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Lewis S. Bear has been appointed chief of the screening division in the motion picture section of the War Department's civil affairs division. A former film consultant and script writer, Bear was director of foreign sales for Young American Films, Inc.

W. G. Faulkner, 83

LONDON, Dec. 21.—W. G. Faulkner, 83, said to be the first writer in Britain of regular film criticism, died at his home in Beckenham, Kent, on Monday. His first daily newspaper reviews of films appeared in the *London Evening News* in 1912.

News Briefs . . .

IN order to make "Captain from Castile" available to all theatres during the Christmas holidays, 20th Century-Fox will release the picture immediately at regular prices, A. W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager announces. The film will be sold at 50-50 terms.

Some 221 simultaneous key city dates are already set on the film for Christmas. In Technicolor, the picture will be backed by a large advertising and promotional campaign nationally.

Albany Exchange Area TOA Calls Meeting for Jan. 5

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 21. — Three additional directors will be elected Jan. 5 at a meeting of the Albany exchange area Theatre Owners of America affiliate. Notice of the meeting was sent out today to 110 exhibitors, along with advice against signing any new contract with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers while the TOA is conducting its negotiations with the licensing organization. Harry Lamont, temporary chairman, reports that 60 exhibitors have already expressed their intentions of applying for membership.

Cooper Foundation Theatres Buys Two Midwest Houses

DENVER, Dec. 21. — Two theatres, the Criterion in Oklahoma City and the Lincoln in Lincoln, Neb., have been purchased by Cooper Foundation Theatres, bringing the number of houses in the circuit to 14, Ralph Ayer, assistant general manager, disclosed here. Established with funds left by the late J. Cooper, the circuit's theatres will continue to be operated by Pat McGee, Frank Roberts and Ayer.

Brown Will Not Work Abroad

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21. — Producer-director Clarence Brown has notified M-G-M that he will return here within the next five weeks and that he has abandoned plans for making a picture abroad for the L. B. Mayer organization. Brown is currently enroute from Rome to Vienna to accept the "Europa Award for Excellence in Cinema Direction," for his "Song of Love." Award will be presented at a dinner attended by top Continental film figures headed by M. Henri Brislof.

200 Toast Pathe Expansion

Some 200 gathered at the new offices of Pathe Laboratories here on Friday to celebrate the company's taking over additional quarters. Pathe Laboratories operations head Nick Tronolone was host.

Paramount Pays Holiday Bonus

Christmas bonus for Paramount employes was distributed on Friday on the basis of one week's salary for those receiving under $50 weekly and $50 for those earning between $50 and $100.

NEGOTIATIONS on wages and working conditions between IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh and the negotiating committee of projectionists Local No. 306 here, and representatives of affiliated circuits, have been recessed until after the holidays, an "IA" spokesman said at the weekend.

On Dec. 30, 2,300 members of Local 306 will hold an election for 1948 president. Candidates are incumbent Herman Gelber and former president Joseph D. Basson.

New Pact Sets $11.25 Scale For San Francisco Janitors

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Providing for retroactive pay to Sept. 1 at $1.50 a day and a new wage scale at $11.25 a day for a five-day week with the sixth day's work optional, a settlement has been reached in the janitors' dispute here after two weeks of conferences. The one-year contract, which will expire Dec. 31, 1948, provides for automatic renewal for another year except on 60 days' prior notice. The AFL janitors' local representatives, who met with Charles Hardy, union president, and Joseph Touhy, arbitrator for Charles P. Skouras, also waived a Christmas bonus.

Young Elected SOPEG Head; Langer Made Vice-President

Sidney Young has been reelected president of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild. Other officers are Otto Langer, vice-president; Robert McKeown, secretary-treasurer; Natalie Rich, recording secretary. On the trial board are Paul Kellogg, Walter Hartman, Jeanne Forestier and Mary Kaem.

Associates to Induct Mayer At Luncheon Here on Jan. 5

Motion Picture Associates will hold its annual inauguration luncheon at the Hotel Astor here on Jan. 5, at which time newly-elected president Arthur Mayer and other officers for 1948 will be inducted. Fred Schwartz is retiring president.

Esther Forbes Wins MGM Award

Esther Forbes' "The Running of the Tide" has won the semi-annual M-G-M novel award. It carries with it a minimum of $150,000 to the author, with a possibility of $250,000, contingent upon sales, plus an additional $25,000 should the book win the Pulitzer Prize. Motion picture and allied rights go to M-G-M, and it will be published by Houghton-Mifflin, which will receive $25,000 from M-G-M on publication.

$175,000 for 'Panhandle' Ads

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists, has set $175,000 for an advertising appropriation for "Panhandle," produced by John C. Champion and Blake Edwards. Picture, starring Rod Cameron with Cathy Downs, has been set for release on March 7.

Newsreel Parade

THE last U. S. troops quitting Italy, the strike in Rome, and a message on food conservation are highlights of current newsreel releases. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 33—Communist general strike in Rome fails. Last U. S. Army troops quit Italy. Congress passes bill for internal aid to Europe. Message by Alan Ladd on food conservation. U. S. Army manufactures own blizzard. Canadian muscle contest. Children of foreign diplomats wish Happy New Year.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 231—Man-made blizzard tests Army's Arctic equipment. Embassy children send Yuletide greetings. New plastic incubator. Admiral Halsey honored. Last American troops quit Italy. Europe aid bill signed. Riots in Italy. Alan Ladd and William Demarest urge less food waste.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 34—NYU beats Connecticut in basketball. Food conservation message from Alan Ladd. Films of strife in Palestine. Yuletide message and Happy New Year.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 101—U. S. occupation forces quit Italy. Signal Corps tests blizzard technique in ice chamber. Embassy children extend season's greetings. Alan Ladd urges food savings. Male physique contest.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 36—Reds fail in Rome strike. Man, dog and plenty of trouble. Marjorie Lawrence sings again. "Hillercopter" plane demonstrated. Life guards make rescue in icy waters. Alan Ladd makes plea for needy. UN kids give season's greetings.

Production Drops To 29, from 32

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—The production level dipped to 29 at the weekend from the previous week's index of 32. Shooting began on eight new films, while 11 were sent to cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "The Cobra Strikes," "Assigned to Danger" and "Rampage" (a Crestview Production), all Eagle-Lion; "A Date with Judy," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "Rawhide Trail," Monogram; "The Bold Frontiersman," Republic; "The Street with No Name," 20th Century-Fox; "Key Largo," Warner Brothers.

Shooting finished on "Trail to Laredo," "Trapped by Boston Blackie" and "Port Said," all Columbia; "The Noose Hangs High" and "Corkscrew Alley," Eagle-Lion; "Under California Stars" and "Heart of Virginia," Republic; "Joan," RKO Radio; "Arthur Takes Over" (Wurtzel), 20th Century-Fox; "The Adventures of Don Juan" and "Winter Meeting," Warner Brothers.

'Tanga Neeka' Group To Leave Here in Feb.

E. C. Mills' production crew for "Tanga Neeka," African jungle feature, will leave New York early in February for Nairobi, East Africa, where they will join Attilio Gatti who sailed from New York last month. Shooting under Gatti's direction will begin about April 1, and the film is expected to be ready for exhibition early in Oct., 1948.

Included in the group leaving in February are Fred J. McConnell, producer; George Merrick, associate producer; George Quigley, assistant director, and the camera crew.

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A whole new world of drama, love, violence and adventure lay before their sword of conquest!

Gonzinho
NY 47

starring

TYRONE POWER

as Pedro De Vargas

NY 47

starring

TYRONE POWER

as Pedro De Vargas

Darryl F. Zanuck
presents

CAPTAIN from CASTILE

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

Directed by
HENRY KING

Produced by
LAMAR TROTTI

Only..

...from **20th** *Century-Fox*

Darryl F. Zanuck
presents

Captain from Castile

Color by TECHNICOLOR
starring

TYRONE POWER

with

JEAN PETERS · CESAR ROMERO
JOHN SUTTON · LEE J. COBB
Antonio Moreno · Thomas Gomez · Alan Mowbray
Barbara Lawrence · George Zucco
Roy Roberts · Marc Lawrence

Directed by **HENRY KING** · Produced by **LAMAR TROTTI**

Screen Play by Lamar Trotti · From the Novel by Samuel Shellabarger

World Premiere · **RIVOLI, N. Y.** · *Christmas Day*

Name Stern, Levy in Percentage Actions

Jesse Stern and Abram H. Levy, New York independents, are defendants in a box-office percentage suit filed in Federal Court here on Friday by Paramount. Similar actions were recently instituted by 20th Century-Fox, seeking damages of $35,000; by Warners, seeking $20,000, and by Loew's, which asks that its amount be ascertained. Paramount charges damages of $15,000 from Dec., 1941, to the present. Louis Nizer represents all of the plaintiffs.

Delay Arguments

(*Continued from page* 1)

lawyers here express the belief that there is no alternative but to agree to the delay. The month's postponement abounds in significance, it is pointed out, meaning that much more time before the air of uncertainty is cleared.

Paramount Foresees Difficulties

It is said to be particularly disturbing to Paramount which, in the event the high court sustains the New York Federal Court's decree, would be ordered to adjust its holdings in more than 1,000 theatres in such a relatively short period as to make the task extremely difficult, if not impossible.

The decree outlaws theatre holdings of five distributors between five and 95 per cent. This is to become operative on Dec. 31, 1948, if upheld.

Additionally, there have been indications that the Supreme Court might withhold its decision on the Schine and Griffiths cases until after it considers the New York suit.

Deadline Originally Today

Because of this new development the Government has failed to complete its appeal brief although today was to have been the deadline.

Although the defendants and the Department were to file the appeal documents with the high court today, both sides had agreed previously to an exchange of briefs instead, with the actual filing of them, along with answers to each other's charges set for Jan. 5. Regardless, it is likely some of the companies will file today. Columbia already has served the U. S. Solicitor General with its brief.

Berger - Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

Berger's counsel 20 days and Louis Frohlich, Ascap counsel, 10 days to file additional briefs.

The evidence, presented by Berger and Robert Hazelton, booker for Ted Mann's circuit, included Ascap's action in notifying all theatres of the cancellation of present licenses and in setting a 300 per cent increase in fees.

Berger also testified that cue sheets are not available at exchanges, therefore preventing him from knowing what music was contained in films or who owned the rights to the music. Admitting he had not paid the music tax for years, Berger maintained that in paying exchanges for the rental of films he also paid for music performing rights, since no films can be run without the music.

New Mexican Company

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 21. — Roberto and Enrique J. Cervantes and Rafael Rojas have formed J. E. M. Productions, to produce and distribute.

U. K. Levy

(*Continued from page* 1)

formula, it is essential that any alternative to the tax does not add to Britain's dollar debt. Eady is said to have pointed out that the British government has decided not to permit this country to be out-balanced in excess of 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 pounds ($16,000,000-$20,000,000) in film exchange.

Eady reportedly felt that present plans to convert frozen funds of U. S. companies into production here would entail a dollar drain—in however remote a future—and requested another formula. This was said to have exceeded Allport's instructions and, accordingly, he was compelled to seek further orders from MPA president Eric A. Johnston in Washington.

Informed quarters here regard the Eady-Allport negotiations as a poker game, with speculation centering around the question of which side can hold out longer. Britain's exhibition business inevitably will run down badly six months from now if a settlement does not come in the meanwhile. On the other hand, America is faced with complete loss of the British markets.

Wilson, who outlined a plan for massive extension of British production, including an increase in the number of cheaper pictures, said the government already has issued licenses to permit expenditure of 1,500,000 pounds ($6,000,000) for studio building. Wilson envisages Britain's annual output of films in the undefined future as 75 top features. He said he plans to discuss arrangements for American companies' stepping up of production here at a post-Christmas conference with United States representatives.

Para. Profits

(*Continued from page* 1)

company's executive theatre interests here, foreign distribution accounts for only 10 per cent of Paramount's total income, he said. Paramount is least affected by foreign restrictions, he added.

Balaban stated he is "hopeful" that the terms of the British *ad valorem* duty will be modified before Paramount's supply of films in that country is exhausted although, he said, there has been no new specific development in this regard.

Balaban explained the decrease in rental revenue here this way: "We enjoyed the benefit of amortizing low cost pictures in a period of expanding markets. In that process earnings swell. We are now experiencing the reverse of that process. We are amortizing high cost pictures in a shrinking market and our earnings from production - distribution are shrinking."

"However," Balaban continued, "so far as our efforts to reduce production costs are successful, the pictures that go into inventory from this point forward will represent a lower cost and will call for lower amortization charges when they are placed in distribution starting in the fall of 1948."

Must Share Ad Costs

(*Continued from page* 1)

carry the load in each theatre situation and continue their long-range national campaigns. Schlaifer is in Miami to set up local campaigns for Darryl F. Zanuck's "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Captain from Castile," in conjunction with Sonny Shepperd of Wometco.

Describing the part that exhibition and distribution must take in order to offset foreign market losses, Schlaifer stressed the lack of showmanship during the past few years due to the war and lush business.

Low Amusement Wages

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 21. — The amusement and recreation industry pays the smallest average wages of any business in the state, it was disclosed by B. L. Flanagan, executive director of the State Department of Employment Security. He said the average in this industry is $100 monthly.

3 Named Executives Of Eastman House

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 21.—James E. Gleason, board chairman of the Gleason Works and longtime friend of the late George Eastman, has been elected chairman of trustees and of the executive committee of George Eastman House, Inc.

Announced last June as an educational corporation, Eastman House will function as a world photographic center and a memorial to Eastman to display and demonstrate "the art and science of photography in all its branches." Charles F. Hutchison, Kodak executive, was elected vice-chairman of the board, and Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, research director of Eastman, was chosen president.

National Review Bd. Cites "M. Verdoux"

Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" has been selected as the "best film of the year" by the National Board of Review in a listing which put five foreign films in the 10 top places. The board's committee on exceptional pictures cited Michael Redgrave in "Mourning Becomes Electra" and Celia Johnson in "This Happy Breed" for top acting performances, while Elia Kazan was singled out in the "best direction" category for his "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Boomerang!"

Others in the 10-best-films group are: "Great Expectations," "Shoeshine," "Crossfire," "Boomerang!", "Odd Man Out," "Gentleman's Agreement," "To Live in Peace," "It's a Wonderful Life" and "The Overlanders."

Capturing the 10 top places in the "best entertainment" grouping were: "Great Expectations," "Miracle on 34th Street," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Life with Father," "Crossfire," "Boomerang!", "The Yearling," "I Know Where I'm Going," "Kiss of Death" and "The Late George Apley."

Columbia Mexican Deal

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 21.—A contract for the distribution of Mexican pictures in the key provincial cities of Guadalajara, Monterey, Torreon and Vera Cruz has been signed by Columbia with Producciones Grovas, the Rodriguez Brothers and Producciones Calderon. Columbia also distributes the pictures of Cantinflas and others in Mexico.

M·G·M TRADE SHOW
PHILADELPHIA TERRITORY ONLY
★
"HIGH WALL"
FRI., DECEMBER 26
11 A.M.
★
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
1233 Summer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE RETURNS ARE COMING IN...AND IT'S A LANDSLIDE!

ACROSS THE NATION THEY'RE RAVING ABOUT YOUR NEW STAR SENSATION!

"Feminine fans are bound to receive him with the same fervor as a new Gable or Boyer." —DETROIT NEWS

"He has personality and the ability to put over a role. Jimmie singing his own songs is delightful." —LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's a Dixieland Joy Ride!

MONOGRAM PICTURES presents

Governor

JIMMIE DAVIS

in

LOUISIANA

co-starring

MARGARET LINDSAY

with

JOHN GALLAUDET · FREDDIE STEWART

RALPH FREETO · DOTTYE BROWN

and

"THE SUNSHINE SERENADERS"

Produced by LINDSLEY PARSONS

Directed by Phil Karlson

Screenplay by Jack DeWitt

Original Story by Steve Healey

with

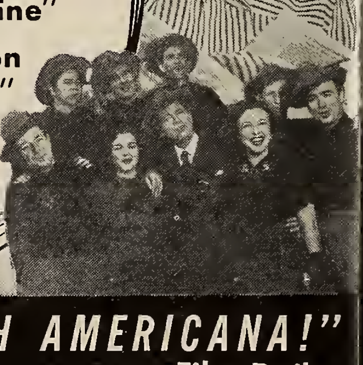
A CAVALCADE OF JIMMIE DAVIS HITS!

Including—

"You Are My Sunshine"

"There's A New Moon Over My Shoulder"

"Nobody's Darling"



"HERE IS RICH AMERICANA!" —Film Daily

From MONOGRAM

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 121 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

Field Grosses Up In Last Three Months

But a $16,406 Weekly Average Trails 1946

Key city first-run theatre grosses were considerably higher during the quarter period Sept. 1-Dec. 1 compared with the previous three-month period. They were, however, considerably below those during the same period of 1946, according to reports on some 170 situations from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field. Seasonal factor, of course, figures in the improvement manifested in comparison between this year's two periods.

Weekly average gross for this year's quarter rose to $16,406 from the $15,797 of June-Aug. The Sept.-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Kranze Becomes FC Sales Vice-president

Bernard G. Kranze has been named vice-president in charge of worldwide sales for Film Classics and FC International, by Joseph Bernhard, president.

Samuel Wheeler, sales manager for Film Classics, will assume an executive post under Kranze.

Kranze, who had been assistant general sales manager of J. Arthur Rank product distributed by Universal International, requested and received his release from that post to accept the new position. He will take over on Jan. 19, upon his return from a Florida vacation, on which he will leave this week. Kranze started in the industry in 1923, working in the studio and in the sales department of Paramount, and for 16 years he was district manager and held other top executive posts with RKO Radio prior to his association with the Rank organization.

RKO, Col. Adopt 21-Day Availability

CLEVELAND, Dec. 22.—The 21-day product availability plan for deluxe neighborhood theatres previously operating on a 35-day availability, is spreading in Greater Cleveland.

First offered by 20th-Fox, and then by Warners, the plan is now being

(*Continued on page* 5)

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Lag

New York first-run business at the "showcases" here is decidedly off. Prospects are bright, though, with 10 openings set, as follows: "Where There's Life," Paramount, and "My Wild Irish Rose," Strand, tomorrow; Thursday, "The Fugitive," Victoria; "Captain from Castile" at the Rivoli; "Daisy Kenyon" at the Roxy; "High Wall" at the Capitol; "The Fabulous Texan" at the Gotham; "The Exile" at the Winter Garden, and "Tycoon" at the Palace. "The Senator Was Indiscreet" will open Friday at the Criterion.

The current week's estimated

(*Continued on page* 5)

Higher Moral Film Level in England

Present trend in England, largely forwarded by J. Arthur Rank, is towards a higher moral and cultural film standard, Right Rev. Lord Abbot Upson, chairman of the Catholic Film Society of England, asserts here. Abbot Upson, who has just arrived here for a six-month visit, has accepted invitations to talk with many producers and will visit California in January to tour the studios. The Film Society,

(*Continued on page* 5)

High Court Accepts Two 'Amicus' Briefs

Washington, Dec. 22. — The U. S. Supreme Court today agreed to accept *amicus curiae* briefs in the New York Paramount case from the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations.

Both organizations center their briefs on complete divestiture of theatres.

Decree Means Flood Of Damage Suits: UA

If the U. S. Supreme Court were to uphold the New York Federal Court's conclusions of law and decree, production and distribution would be faced with destruction in the form of an overwhelming number of damage suits by exhibitors.

This declaration is made by United Artists in its appeal brief in the equity case which it plans to file with the high court late this week. The company takes the position that if the New York ruling is sustained, theatremen will interpret its provisions as having been law before the New York decision was rendered. Thus, the company asserts, violations of the various

(*Continued on page* 5)

U. S. Slow in Finding a Plan to Release Funds

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—State Department officials are making very slow progress in finding a workable scheme for Government aid to film producers and publishers in getting frozen funds out of Europe.

One official said that he had originally hoped to have a plan ready to submit to film producers and book, magazine and newspaper publishers by Jan. 1, but that he had to admit now that this was a "little too optimistic." Now he hopes to have something by mid- or late-January.

Meanwhile, the President's Marshall Plan message showed a loophole that could conceivably be used to aid film and other information groups get funds out. This is a provision giving the plan administrator power to partially guarantee new private American investments that are vital to European recovery plans. The guarantee is limited to a Government promise to convert into dollars earnings these investments up to the total invested.

Lachman Calls for More 'Family' Films

Assailing films which are "made with name stars but lack everything else," Edward Lachman, president of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, has called upon producers to plan product "more carefully and give us more family pictures."

In a statement issued here yesterday, Lachman said also that "the inflated number of advanced admission price pictures" has diminished to the point where such films are "a negligible few." He said he hoped that before the new year advanced admission pictures will be eliminated entirely.

Lachman expressed fear that in 1948 New Jersey theatres will face "a new onslaught of taxes," and reported that the city council of Ocean City is considering a referendum on a three per cent admission enabling tax. Jersey Allied, he said, is prepar-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Upper Court's Ruling Seen Off to Autumn

Postponement of Hearing Could Cause the Delay

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The one-month postponement of final arguments in the New York anti-trust case before the U. S. Supreme Court could result in a delay of the high court's decision until the fall, 1948, term, according to sources here. It was due in the spring.

(That the Supreme Court would refrain from rendering its verdict during the present term, which expires in mid-June, was considered as a possibility by film attorneys in New York yesterday. However, they added, the upper court's action in this regard is a matter only for conjecture. The general belief expressed here is that the New York case and the Schine and Griffith suits all will be decided on the same day).

At the request of the Department of Justice oral arguments have been set

(*Continued on page* 5)

Chicago Decree Is Violated: McConnell

Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park theatre, today said that he is preparing a Federal Court petition asking for a ruling to show why defendants in the original Jackson Park anti-trust suit should not be held in contempt for their actions following issuance of the court's decree. McConnell alleges the defendants have violated every provision in the decree and it is time for an accounting, particularly when it seems that they have taken each provision separately and intentionally gone ahead with the viola-

(*Continued on page* 5)

2nd Phase of Red Probe Is 'All Set'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—All background work and preparation for the second phase of the House Un-American Activities Committee's investigation of the motion picture industry has been completed, and the committee is "all set to go," a Committee source said here today.

He indicated that the exact date for

(*Continued on page* 5)

Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW, Selznick Releasing Organization president, is on the Coast from New York.

●

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association, has left Washington for Spokane where he will spend the holidays. Before returning East he will address the Los Angeles Town Hall Club on the Marshall Plan, Jan. 15.

●

GREGOR RABINOVITCH, Columbia director; RUSSELL MUTH, Movietone manager in Europe, and LENA HORNE are among passengers who returned here yesterday from Europe on the *SS America.*

●

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, Universal-International president, today will receive a decoration making him a Chevalier in the French National Legion of Honor at ceremonies at the French Consulate here.

●

WILLIAM E. OSBORNE, Far Eastern and Middle Eastern supervisor for Monogram International, was recently married to BRENDA HARRIS of Braintree, England.

●

WILLIAM DOZIER, Universal-International executive, and his brother, ROBERT, arrived here over the weekend via TWA from the Coast.

●

PAUL RADIN, vice-president of Buchanan advertising agency, will return to Hollywood today from New York.

●

MRS. GEORGE SKOURAS and her daughter, ATHANA, have returned to the Coast from New York.

●

GEORGE BURROWS, Monogram treasurer, left Hollywood yesterday by plane for New York.

●

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, will leave here today for Albany, N. Y.

●

BENITO DEL VILLAR, Chilean exhibitor, is in town.

Hold 'T-Men' Sales Meet

A two-day Eagle-Lion sales meet on "T-Men" was begun in Cleveland yesterday, A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, announced here. At the meeting, presided over by Harold S. Dunn, assistant general sales manager; Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising and publicity; and Frank Soule, in charge of branch operations, plans are being finalized for launching day-and-date engagements on the production. Similar meetings are scheduled in the near future for the West Coast, South and Southwest.

"Closeup" to Eagle-Lion

New York's first "all-New York film production" in more than a decade, Marathon Pictures' "Closeup," will be released by Eagle-Lion Films, it has been announced by producer Frank Satenstein.

News Briefs . . .

PICTURE PIONEERS' dinner in memory of the late James J. Walker, who was a perennial toastmaster at Pioneers' functions, and long regarded as a friend of the industry, will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Jan. 14, it was announced yesterday by Jack Cohn, head of the Pioneers.

Referendum Stymies Proposed 5% St. Paul Ticket Levy

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 22.—Following report by the city clerk that the petition calling for a referendum on the recently enacted five per cent tax on amusements in St. Paul contained more valid signatures than required, counsel has advised the city council that the tax is inoperative until it has been approved by a majority of the city's voters.

By this action, theatres and other establishments affected by the ordinance, will not be forced to collect the additional ticket tax until it has been voted on by the city's voters either on special orders or at the next regular city election next April.

Seek New Status for Canadian Film Board

OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—A resolution to establish the National Film Board of Canada on a corporate basis like Canadian Broadcasting Corp. is on the order paper of the Canadian Parliament. It is learned that in support of the proposed change it is claimed that NFB engages in dealings of a commercial kind so that freedom of action is essential.

Five Gene Autry Films

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Gene Autry Prod. will make five Western features for Columbia release in 1948, all in Cinecolor, it was announced here.

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S., who returned hehe last week from a six-day conference with Rank and Rank's chief aide, John Davis, in London, left New where he will discuss future production York by plane yesterday for the Coast and distribution plans with Universal executives Nate J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, William Goetz and Leo Spitz, and Eagle-Lion executives Arthur Krim, Bryan Foy, and Walter Wanger.

American Broadcasting Air Time Sales Hit 43 Millions

American Broadcasting gross network time sales for 1947 amounted to $43,548,057, an increase of 7.2 per cent over gross billings of $40,617,130 for 1946.

October was top month for the network's time sales. Billings amounted to $4,203,034 in that month.

United of Illinois Will Hold Two-Day Convention

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—United Theatre Owners of Illinois will hold a two-day convention in Springfield on Jan. 8 and 9, at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel.

According to Edward G. Zorn, president, the two days will be spent discussing and attempting to solve many problems now vexing exhibitors.

Fred Mindlin Forms His Own Chicago Trailer Company

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—Fred Mindlin, who left National Screen Service recently as manager of the special trailer department here, has formed his own company, Mindlin Film Trailer Co., and will be ready about Jan. 15 to produce special trailers for theatres.

FWC Sues City on 2c Admission Levy

STOCKTON, Cal., Dec. 22.—Challenging the legality of the two-cent city amusement tax, which Fox West Coast Theatres has paid under protest since Dec., 1946, the circuit has filed suit in Superior Court here for refund of $28,000 paid the city under the tax.

Dudley Shepard, attorney for FWC, said the tax was unfair and discriminatory since theatres here paid from 100 to 1,000 per cent more than any other business. Although the circuit opposed the tax when it was originally levied, several years ago, it delayed legal action during the "lush" war years. Shepard stated that theatre business was now definitely affected by the imposition of the tax, and FWC is seeking relief.

In event the case is won, FWC will turn over the amount refunded to the city for charity, it was said.

No 'U' Enterprise Talks

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal, declared there today U-I has had no conversations with Enterprise officials regarding a distribution deal, adding none are anticipated.

11 Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Five of 11 pictures reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I, four were rated A-II, and two received a Class B rating.

Rated A-I were: "The Little Ballerina," Universal-International; "Rose of Santa Rosa," Columbia; "T-Men," Eagle-Lion; "The Tender Years," 20th Century-Fox; "Under Colorado Skies," Republic. Classified A-II were: "The High Wall," M-G-M; "I Walk Alone," Paramount; "The Senator Was Indiscreet," Universal-International; "Tycoon," RKO Radio. Placed in Class B were: "Glamour Girl," Columbia; "Panic" (French), Tricolore Films.

Minnesota Deal Off

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 22. — Edelstein Amusement Co. and Minnesota Amusement Co. have dissolved their operating partnership at Hibbing. Under the new setup Julius Edelstein will operate the Lybba, while Maco will operate the State and Gopher.

Allen's New Company Has 6 Sales Offices

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—Cardinal Pictures has been established at Toronto, with offices in five other cities, to handle distribution of Screen Guild Productions, Film Classics and the Devonshire Group of British reissues. The new company has been formed by H. J. Allen of Toronto who was president of Producers Releasing Corp., Ltd., until the latter was absorbed by International Film Distributors a short time ago. President of IFD is Dave Griesdorf who was formerly associated with Allen in Canadian PRC. Harold S. King is Toronto branch manager of Cardinal.

Henry Ferber Joins Metropolitan Circuit

Henry Ferber has resigned as comptroller of Theatre Owners of America to become assistant to treasurer R. V. Wemple of Metropolitan Playhouses, New York circuit. Ferber will continue with TOA only to the extent of assisting in some financial matters..

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON . Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'VARIETY GIRL'
BING CROSBY
BOB HOPE
ALAN LADD
IN PERSON
Dave APOLLON
Molly PICON
Jack CARTER

IT'S GOT THAT ACADEMY AWARD LOOK!
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
CARY GRANT · LORETTA YOUNG · DAVID NIVEN
"The Bishop's Wife"
Doors Open 9 A. M ASTOR B'way at 45th St.

RAY MILLAND · MARLENE DIETRICH
in
"Golden Earrings"
A Paramount Picture
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
In Person
BILLY DE WOLFE
RAY McKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CLARK BROTHERS
FRANKIE LAINE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

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STARTING

XMAS

DAY

YOU'LL

HEAR

THE

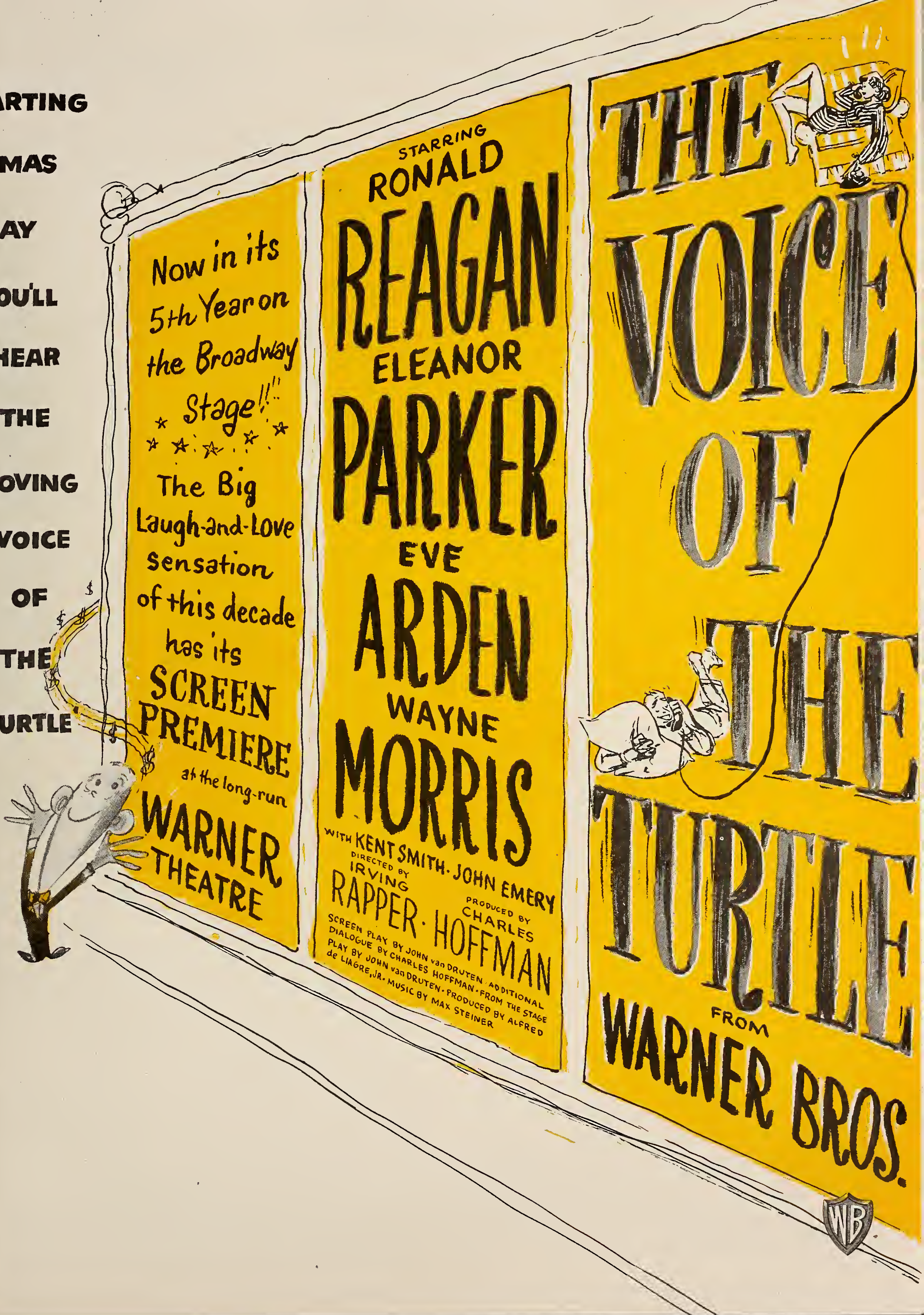
LOVING

'VOICE

OF

THE

TURTLE


Now in its 5th Year on the Broadway Stage!!
The Big Laugh-and-Love sensation of this decade has its SCREEN PREMIERE at the long-run WARNER THEATRE
STARRING
RONALD
REAGAN
ELEANOR
PARKER
EVE
ARDEN
WAYNE
MORRIS
WITH KENT SMITH · JOHN EMERY
DIRECTED BY IRVING RAPPER · PRODUCED BY CHARLES HOFFMAN
SCREEN PLAY BY JOHN van DRUTEN · ADDITIONAL DIALOGUE BY CHARLES HOFFMAN · FROM THE STAGE PLAY BY JOHN van DRUTEN · PRODUCED BY ALFRED de LIAGRE, JR. · MUSIC BY MAX STEINER
THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE
FROM WARNER BROS.
WB

Short Subjects

"The Presidential Year"

(*March of Time—20th-Fox*)

With the Presidential year of 1948 only a few days away, March of Time sets the stage for the question that will be increasingly in the forefront of public attention: Who will be elected President in November?

In this timely, impartial analysis of potential candidates for major party nominations, the camera focusses upon President Truman, Gen. Eisenhower, Gov. Dewey, Gov. Warren, Senator Saltonstall, Gen. MacArthur, Senator Vandenberg, Gov. Stassen, Senator Taft, Henry Wallace, and others, while the narrator examines the political philosophies and possibilities of each. President Truman, it is acknowledged, will be the Democratic standard-bearer; but who, MOT asks, will oppose him at the polls?

The subject offers exhibitors a number of exploitation angles, and customers who see it should appreciate it as an entertaining, instructive "one basket" summary of the shaping U. S. political scene. Running time, 16 minutes.

"Switzerland Today"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

A camera crew was dispatched to Switzerland to make this subject. They brought back an interesting and comprehensive pictorial report on the country today. As shown, this peace-loving nation, headquarters of many worldwide organizations, is a land of curious paradoxes. Not only have the cameras caught something of the country's mountain peaks and picturesque yodelers, but they explored its history, geography and culture. Running time, 18 minutes.

Czech Negotiations Fail; Maas Returns

Negotiations between Irving Maas, president of the Motion Picture Export Association, and Lubomir Linhart, director of the Czechoslovakian nationalized film industry, for release of U. S. films in that country, have broken down, according to press dispatches reaching here from Prague. Maas is due to arrive here today by plane from Prague.

Collapse of negotiations, it was said, followed a Czech demand that revenue from their pictures shown in the U. S. must equal the income of U. S. films in Czechoslovakia. Linhard is reported to have argued that 10 Czech films could gross as much as 80 American pictures because of larger audiences and higher admissions in the U. S.

According to the report, which gave as its source the U. S. Embassy in Prague, the only U. S. films that will be shown in Czechoslovakia henceforth will be those purchased under previous contract.

In the past year MPEA supplied 80 pictures to Czechoslovakia and realized therefrom 65 per cent of the net income for Czech admissions, it was said. That country recently purchased 18 pictures from U. S. companies not members of the MPEA. Some 22 MPEA films are said to be in Czechoslovakian vaults at present.

Review

"If Winter Comes"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

Hollywood, Dec. 22

WALTER PIDGEON, Deborah Kerr, Angela Lansbury, Binnie Barnes, Reginald Owen and Dame May Whitty are a company to fill most marquees amply and potently in behalf of this Pandro Berman production of the A. S. M. Hutchinson novel that made box-office history as filmed silently in 1923. Directed by Victor Saville, from a script by Marguerite Roberts and Arthur Wimperis, this tells the same story somewhat differently, and uses World War II instead of World War I as background, but to the same general effect. It is of course a story for adults, narrated candidly and deliberately, and rates commercially as quite a package of merchandise with that qualification.

Strictly as entertainment, the picture suffers somewhat from the passage of time. The incidents in the foreground doubtless had in the afterglow of the first World War an interest they lack in the wake of the second and greater conflict, which bred similar incidents in such multiple as to give them a seemingness of the commonplace. Nevertheless, they are skillfully staged, resolutely acted and handsomely photographed for today's audiences.

The Hutchinson story, it will be recalled, has to do with an English man and woman (Pidgeon and Miss Kerr) who find they have married the wrong people and, unwilling to hurt their respective spouses by seeking freedom so they can marry each other, console themselves with the Poet Shelley's "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" The foreground incidents, terminating in proving the Shelly reassurance when the man's wife divorces him and the woman's husband is killed in the war, include the suicide of an illicitly pregnant girl whom the man has innocently befriended but can't prove it until, at last in possession of a letter in which the dead girl names the son of his employer as her unborn baby's father, enough other things have happened so it appears kinder to let the matter stand.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Near East Business Off 50%: Steinhardt

Because of the tense political situation business in Egypt and Palestine has dropped 50 per cent, Albert V. Steinhardt, general manager for United Artists in the Near East asserted here yesterday. Steinhardt will return to his headquarters in Cairo early in January.

Steinhardt disclosed that Arabic production in Egypt, which reached a peak of 100 features in 1945, has declined some 50 per cent. This was attributed to the fact that American films have been regaining ground lost in the war. A problem which American films face in the Near East is strict censorship in regard to religion and politics. He pointed out that "Crossfire" was recently banned in Egypt.

Generally speaking, he said, Egyptian audiences prefer "good action picture," while Palestine goes in for a higher level. He viewed the partition of Palestine as having no effect on the industry because, he said, "exhibitors are not concerned with politics."

A 16mm. program, advanced by 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and M-G-M, is beginning to develop. He also revealed that a new law in Egypt now demands that 75 per cent of the staffs of foreign companies consist of Egyptians, and that 85 per cent of the payroll must be to Egyptians. At present there is a freeze of 50 per cent of remittances in Egypt, but Steinhardt expressed the opinion that it will be unfrozen shortly.

$3,986,000 Loan to Mexican Industry

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 22.—The Mexican industry received loans, credits and discounts totaling $3,986,157 for the 11-month period ended Dec. 1 from its own bank, the Banco Nacional Cinematografico.

Sopeg-Loew Hearing To Continue Friday

Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild presented its case in its wage dispute with Loew's to the American Arbitration Association here yesterday. The union offered data to show cost-of-living figures, and held that industry wages were considerably lower than those in non-industry companies employing white collar workers.

The company will present its case Friday. It sought a week's time to prepare its case, but following a protest of any delay by SOPEG, it was agreed to continue the case Friday. Leonard Boudin was legal representative of SOPEG and Burton K. Zorn represented the company.

20th-Fox Seeking to Enjoin Arbitration of Layoffs

Arguments were heard in New York State Supreme Court in which 20th Century-Fox is seeking to enjoin the Screen Publicists Guild from taking to arbitration the recent layoff by the company of nine members of the advertising-publicity department. It is claimed by the company that the layoff is not arbitrable under its SPG contract. Affidavits were presented by both sides.

Supreme Court Judge Henry C. Greenberg reserved decision.

Barney Pitkin Heads Conn. Variety Club

HARTFORD, Dec. 22.—Barney Pitkin, branch manager at New Haven for RKO Radio, has been reelected chief barker of Variety Club of Connecticut Tent No. 31. Other officers are Lou Brown, first assistant chief barker; Leo Bonoff, second assistant, George Wilkinson, dough guy; Arthur Greenfield, property man; and Harry F. Shaw, Morris Bailey, Ben Simon, Bill Brown, Hy Levine, Tim O'Toole, and Henry Germaine, directors.

Rites Tomorrow for Mark Hellinger, 44

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Funeral services for Mark Hellinger, 44, producer, who died here yesterday in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital from a heart attack, will be held Wednesday morning at Pierce Brothers Chapel.

A newspaper man in New York before coming here in 1937 under contract to Warner Brothers as an associate producer, he joined 20th Century-Fox in 1941, rejoined Warners a year later and remained with that company until 1945, when he signed with Universal as an independent producer. "The Naked City," his last picture, remains to be released by U-I. A new distribution deal with Selznick Releasing Organization was signed in September for him to produce six WB films in two years.

Even before he joined Warners, Hellinger had been associated with films, having collaborated on two scenarios, "Night Court," for M-G-M, in 1932, and "Broadway Bill," for Columbia, in 1934. His productions included: "Torrid Zone," "High Sierra," "Thank Your Lucky Stars," "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," and more recently, "The Killers," "Brute Force," and the as yet unreleased "The Naked City."

In addition to the widow, he leaves two adopted children.

Von Herberg Services

SEATTLE, Dec. 22.—Last rites for J. G. Von Herberg, veteran circuit theatre owner who died here last Thursday were held today at St. James' Cathedral. Honorary pallbearers included Governor Wallgren of Washington and Senator Magnuson. Von Herberg's Venetian, Roxy and Liberty theatres in Seattle and the Rainier in Renton remained closed all of today.

Arthur St. John 78

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 22.—Arthur C. St. John, 78, industrialist and president of Twin City Theatre Co., died here late last week at St. Helen's Hospital of pneumonia. Twin City operates two theatres in Chehalis and one in Centralia. He is survived by the widow, a son and daughter. He was a native of Carmel, Calif.

R. F. Burkhart, 55

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Funeral services were held here today for Robert F. Burkhart, 55, veteran Hollywood publicist, who died Friday in Santa Monica. He was the co-author of some 40 novels under the name of Robert Eden. The widow and a daughter survive.

George Blakeslee, 77

DENVER, Dec. 22.—George L. Blakeslee, 77, who built the Grand, Lander, Wyo., 25 years ago, and still owned it, died in a Denver hospital late last week after a lengthy illness.

R. R. McCormick

MEMPHIS, Dec. 22. — R. R. McCormick, owner of Gloria Theatre, Senatobia, Miss., died in Baptist Hospital here yesterday. Funeral services were held in Senatobia today.

Grosses Show Rise

(*Continued from page 1*)

Dec. 1 period last year brought a weekly average of $17,146.

"Forever Amber" stood out as the box-office leader in November on the basis of strength demonstrated mainly during its first two weeks. "Unconquered" ran second, and "Body and Soul" was a strong third. "Amber" and "Unconquered" were shown at advanced admission prices.

"Life with Father," also marketed at advanced admissions, led the field in both September and October. The reissued "Gone with the Wind" held second place in September, but gave way to "Unconquered" in October. In September, "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "Welcome Stranger" and "Mother Wore Tights" were tied for third. "Foxes of Harrow" took over that position in October.

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follow:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,400
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1....	181	2,293,600	18,197
Feb. 7-8	177	2,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1....	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 11-12	184	2,239,500	17,606
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253
May 9-10	175	2,578,100	15,732
May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059
May 23-24	169	2,369,100	14,018
May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972
June 6-7	178	2,834,800	15,926
June 13-14	165	2,511,700	15,222
June 20-21	170	2,579,400	15,173
June 27-28	174	2,557,000	14,695
July 4-5	163	2,507,300	15,382
July 11-12	169	2,734,800	16,182
July 18-19	174	2,555,900	14,689
July 25-26	156	2,561,700	16,421
Aug. 1-2	160	2,511,500	15,696
Aug. 8-9	166	2,612,700	15,742
Aug. 15-16	164	2,622,300	15,989
Aug. 22-23	170	2,931,800	17,246
Aug. 29-30	164	2,786,700	16,992
Sept. 5-6	159	2,829,000	17,792
Sept. 12-13	170	2,855,600	16,209
Sept. 19-20	167	2,716,800	16,268
Sept. 26-27	172	2,845,000	16,541
Oct. 3-4	177	2,852,100	16,113
Oct. 10-11	171	2,665,900	15,590
Oct. 17-18	176	2,923,900	16,613
Oct. 24-25	177	2,956,600	16,704
Oct. 31-Nov. 1....	177	3,029,500	17,116
Nov. 7-8	178	3,082,600	17,318
Nov. 14-15	175	2,937,800	16,781
Nov. 21-22	174	2,821,800	16,217
Nov. 28-29	164	2,416,300	14,733

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,227,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Mar. 1-2	164	2,106,000	18,939
Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1....	130	2,058,200	15,855
June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 28-29	159	2,599,000	16,094
July 5-6	167	2,737,500	16,392
July 12-13	154	2,944,200	19,112
July 19-20	163	2,599,300	15,928
July 26-27	157	2,702,700	17,215
Aug. 2-3	165	2,856,600	17,193
Aug. 9-10	162	2,919,700	18,023
Aug. 16-17	157	2,852,000	18,165
Aug. 23-24	167	3,078,800	18,435
Aug. 30-31	166	2,984,500	17,979
Sept. 6-7	171	3,469,600	20,290
Sept. 13-14	170	3,015,600	17,739
Sept. 20-21	169	3,944,800	17,425
Sept. 27-28	168	2,804,900	16,696
Oct. 4-5	172	2,995,300	17,409
Oct. 11-12	169	2,740,800	16,218
Oct. 18-19	169	2,701,000	15,982
Oct. 25-26	177	3,093,000	17,475
Nov. 1-2	174	2,925,000	16,810
Nov. 8-9	164	2,830,800	17,261
Nov. 15-16	177	3,068,800	17,338
Nov. 22-23	170	2,785,400	16,384
Nov. 29-30	160	2,698,700	16,867

Abbot Upson

(*Continued from page 1*)

he said, is somewhat similar to the U. S. National Legion of Decency, and through the issuance of a periodical bulletin, endeavors to inculcate higher moral and cultural standards of film appreciation in the public.

"The screen is the most potent force in the world for good and evil," Abbot Upson said, "and it is the responsibility of all well-meaning people to keep it a power for good." Abbot Upson stressed also "the very important function the screen serves by providing entertainment," but, he added, "there is no reason why people should not be entertained in a decent way."

Although Abbot Upson offered no opinion on the 75 per cent British tax, he did point out that the general reaction among people in England is one of disappointment because "they can't see their favorite American films and stars." He asserted that the majority would like to see the removal of the tax.

Abbot Upson, accompanied by Father Cowin Norbert, has brought with him 1,600 feet of 16mm. Kodachrome film depicting the life at his community of Benedictine monks at their abbey at Prinknash.

N. Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page 1*)

grosses are as follows: The first week of "Pirates of Monterey," Criterion, $18,000 (mild); "Good News" in its third week at the Music Hall with the Christmas stage show, $135,000; "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, sixth week, $35,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, seventh, $35,000; "Bishop's Wife," Astor, second, $50,000; "Golden Earrings," with Ray McKinley and Billy DeWolfe on stage, Paramount, third, $61,000; "Unconquered," Rivoli, 11th week (six days), $16,000; "It Had to Be You," Connee Boswell on stage, Roxy, third, $35,000; "This Time for Keeps," Paul Whiteman on stage, Capitol, third, $37,000.

Also, "Life With Father," Warner, 19th week, $10,000; "Always Together," Charlie Barnet in person, Strand, second $21,000; "Out of the Past" Palace, fourth, $19,500; "Red Stallion," Gotham, fourth week (six and one-half days), $6,400; "Captain Boycott," Winter Garden, third (six days), $8,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 18th, $4,500; "Nicholas Nickleby," Little Carnegie, fourth, $6,500.

Gov't Prepares 600 Pages of Exhibits

Washington, Dec. 22.—If the U. S. Supreme Court Justices aren't among the best informed persons in America on film distribution practices, it won't be the fault of the Justice Department. The Department has prepared close to 600 pages of exhibits for an appendix to its argument in the industry anti-trust case.

Upper Court Ruling

(*Continued from page 1*)

for the week of Feb. 9, whereas they had been scheduled for Jan. 12. Court officials relate that the Department claimed that the original date did not allow sufficient time for presentation of its arguments. Department spokesmen report that Charles Winston, who had been working on the appeal brief, is ill, and Robert Wright, prosecutor in the New York case, had been tied up with the Schine and Griffith cases and was at home with a cold.

The Department also has had difficulty in preparing its exhibits for printing. The appendix in its brief is said to be of record length.

Postponement of the date of arguments also extends the deadline for the filing of briefs to Jan. 19.

Decree Damage Suits

(*Continued from page 1*)

injunctions prior to the time they were promulgated would be the grounds for the damage suits.

The defendant companies already have been "deluged" with such suits, UA contends, by exhibitors claiming to have been aggrieved because of minimum admission-price provisions in contracts, franchise and formula arrangements and other such practices which have been outlawed by the New York court.

For the most part reiterating its original arguments centered around the fact that it is engaged only in distribution and its position is unique, UA asks that the Supreme Court dismiss the company as a defendant.

Chicago Decree

(*Continued from page 1*)

tion to see how far they could go, as he put it. Petition will be filed immediately after Jan. 1.

McConnell, who is also handling the Alger Circuit defense in percentage claims made against it, says that he will file the Alger answer to charges tomorrow. Alger claims that contracts are illegal and will ask for a stay until the U. S. Supreme Court ruling in the New York case.

Probe Is 'All Set'

(*Continued from page 1*)

the new hearings would be decided at a Committee meeting early in the new session, and that the hearings would be held here before the full Committee and not before a subcommittee in Hollywood, as previously reported.

Presumably the finishing of the Committee's preparation includes viewing of all the pictures suspected of Communist propaganda, and completion of dossiers on all film figures to be accused of being Communist Party members.

B. and K. Switches Stage Shows Jan. 9

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—Stage shows will begin at the State Lake Theatre, Jan. 9, the day after being "yanked" at the Chicago. Move is being made by Balaban and Katz because the Jackson Park decree limits pictures to two weeks in their Loop houses.

Circuit feels that by playing better product in their 3,900-seat flagship they will realize more revenue than by doing so in the 2,700-seat State Lake, and is making the experiment to see how it works. State Lake policy will be similar to that employed by the Essaness Oriental, only other combination house in the Loop, which used vaudeville and less expensive pictures.

It is rumored that now that B. and K. has read their own interpretation into the Jackson Park decree and feel that it is permissible to play more than two weeks in Loop houses provided picture is at that time made available to subsequent runs, that they are going to test day-and-dating in the Loop with "Road to Rio," scheduled to open State Lake on Christmas Day. Rumor is that they contemplate opening it at the Apollo at the same time. Contention is that the decree states a picture can play only two weeks in any one Loop house owned by the circuit but says nothing about it being limited to only one theatre during that period, although it does specifically prohibit moveovers.

Morton Lane, of Paramount's home office legal department, is still here and dividing his time at Paramount and B. and K. It is believed that the circuit is acting upon his advice. With the Jackson Park decree still keeping everything in a turmoil, it is understood that no bookings have been made for after Jan. 1. What pictures will be made available by distributors and where they will play is a matter of conjecture, inasmuch as no one will comment on the situation.

21-Day Availability

(*Continued from page 1*)

offered by RKO Radio and Columbia.

Eleven theatres have contracted for this service with 20th-Fox. They include Warners' Vogue, Variety and Uptown; the Broadvue, an independent house owned and operated by Frank Gross; six houses of the Associated Circuit, namely the Shaker, Shore, Center Mayfield, Homestead, Fairview and Parma, and the Community circuit's Riverside.

More 'Family' Films

(*Continued from page 1*)

ing "to fight the tax wherever it rears its head."

Wilbur Snaper has been named by Lachman to supervise arrangements for Jersey Allied's June convention. Atlantic City, Asbury Park or West End are being considered.

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 122 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1947 TEN CENTS

Canada and US Talk Import Ban Softening

Would Facilitate Early Removal of Restrictions

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—Canadian Finance Minister Abbott discloses that authorities of this country are "consulting" with U. S. Government officials "on measures of co-operation designed to facilitate the earliest possible removal of the [import ban] restrictions," with this statement being considered here as important to various industries, including the motion picture industry, since controls on imports of motion picture equipment are under the jurisdiction of the Finance Department as well as the Reconstruction Department.

Abbott has also revealed that the

(Continued on page 3)

Coast Guilds Pledge Aid Against 'Reds'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 23.—Efforts by the major producers' committee to implement the industry policy on employment of subversives has won the "full support and cooperation" of a committee representing the majority of studio craft unions. The labor group is headed by Hollywood AFL Film Council chairman Roy Brewer.

The producer group, which includes E. J. Mannix, Walter Wanger, Joseph M. Schenck, Henry Ginsberg and Dore Schary, conferred with the labor unit last week, but announcement of the outcome was held up pending last night's meeting with talent guild executives.

Last night's meeting was devoted primarily to planning a joint public relations program and resulted in the appointment of a subcommittee to

(Continued on page 3)

Canada Ticket Tax Yields $17,061,849

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—Department of National Revenue of the Canadian government reports in its annual statement for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1947, that excise taxes from amusements amounted to $17,061,849, compared with $15,575,309 in 1945-46 and $14,188,082 in 1944-45.

479 Theatres Are In Cleveland Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—There are 479 theatres with a seating capacity of 371,013 in operation in the Cleveland exchange area, according to a theatre directory released here today by the Motion Picture Association.

Fifteenth in a series of 31 directories, it reveals that 185 theatres, seating 203,327, are in the territory's five largest cities: Cleveland, Toledo, Akron, Youngstown and Canton. Cleveland alone has 102, with a capacity of 124,229. They average 1,218 seats per house, in comparison with a 315-seat average for 91 theatres in 85 towns of up to 2,500 persons.

Cinecolor Capacity Up 200% in 1948

Cinecolor production capacity in 1948 will be 200 per cent greater than this year, with several major production companies scheduled to have a number of pictures made under the process, A. Pam Blumenthal, Cinecolor board chairman, reported here yesterday.

About 15 features were made in Cinecolor during 1947, and some 45 will be filmed with the process next year, Blumenthal said. He pointed

(Continued on page 3)

Gen. Bradley to Cite Industry for USO

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Joint citation by the War and Navy Departments to the entertainment industry for the USO Camp Shows Service, which terminates Dec. 31, will be presented by Gen. Omar Bradley at a luncheon on Jan. 2 at the Beverly Hills Hotel. He will also express thanks for establishment of the Veterans Hospital Camp Shows, Inc., which will take over the responsibility for supplying entertainment to hospitalized veterans.

TOA in New Drive Against Film Taxes

A new nationwide campaign against taxation has been launched by the Theatre Owners of America. Write or wire Congressional representatives *today* and enlist the support of audiences, the local Chamber of Commerce and labor unions to cut the 20 per cent Federal admissions tax in half, TOA urges in its first organizational bulletin.

The five-page publication is devoid of opinion on trade practices. Among

(Continued on page 3)

"A Double Life"

[Universal-International-Kanin]—**Distinguished Entertainment**

Hollywood, Dec. 23

THE GREATEST performance in Ronald Colman's long career would be in itself enough to carry this Michael Kanin production to impressive grosses, but is not required to do so, since production, direction, script, and matching performances by Signe Hasso, Edmund O'Brien, Shelley Winters, Ray Collins, Philip Loeb and supporting players round out a powerful, fascinating, innately theatrical attraction which is sure to make its mark in any market. Strictly adult in subject and treatment, it is at once a character study, a literary work and a melodrama, and, in the aggregate, distinguished entertainment.

Colman portrays a famous stage actor, beloved by some who know him and despised by others, who co-stars in "Othello" with Miss Hasso, from whom he has been divorced for two years but with whom he is still in love. He concentrates on his characterization so profoundly that his own personality and conduct become indistinguishable by him from those

(Continued on page 3)

Merry Christmas

RKO Favors Joining TOA In Some Areas

Members of New York's MMPTA Also May Go In

Likelihood that RKO Theatres will join the Theatre Owners of America was strengthened here yesterday as Malcolm Kingsberg, head of the circuit, re-stated the company's policy of not being against exhibitor organizations and to that added RKO would join TOA where it is "fairly representative" of exhibition.

The entire RKO circuit would not affiliate with the organization as a unit but instead some of its houses would align with TOA units in certain "non-competitive" areas.

Legal obstacles for such alignments were removed when TOA elected to take no position in the Government's anti-trust suit against the distributors. Instead, as previously announced, both American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, which merged to form the TOA, are remaining on the books only for the purpose of continuing

(Continued on page 3)

20th To See Owners BeforeSelling16mm.

Twentieth Century-Fox exchange managers have been directed to consult 35mm. exhibitors who might possibly be affected before licensing 16mm. product in theatre-less communities as a further precautionary measure against the interference of narrow-width pictures with standard operations. This was reported here yesterday by the Theatre Owners of America in its first organizational bulletin.

Peter Levathes, in charge of 16mm. distribution for the company, had conferred on the matter with Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, and Myron Blank, co-chairman of the TOA 16mm. committee.

No Paper Tomorrow

Motion Picture Daily **will not be published tomorrow, Christmas Day and a legal holiday.**

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, has accepted the Southern California chairmanship for American Brotherhood Week, Feb. 22-29.

•

STANTON GRIFFITHS, American Ambassador to Poland and chairman of the executive committee of Paramount; NATALIE KALMUS, Technicolor adviser, and WESLEY RUGGLES, producer, are among passengers due here today from London on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

GEORGE PEYTON of the Griffith Theatre, LaGrange, Ky., is recovering at his home from leg injuries sustained in an accident; VAN SNOOK, owner of the Griffith, has returned to his home from Jewish Hospital, Louisville, following an operation.

•

IRVING MAAS, president of the Motion Picture Export Association, who was due here yesterday from Prague by plane, is now expected to arrive today; his plane was grounded in Ireland.

•

FRANK V. KENNEBECK, head of United Artists sales in the India-Ceylon area, has returned to Omaha for a two-month visit with his mother.

•

JOHN MURPHY, Loew Theatre executive, has returned to New York from Evansville, Louisville and Indianapolis.

•

JACK WRATHER, Monogram producer, has returned to his desk at the Hollywood studio after recuperating from influenza.

•

MARY DIFAZIO, Monogram International service manager, and RICHARD J. BOZNUFF, JR., were married recently.

•

PAT MCMAHON, part-owner of the State, New Britain, Conn., and MRS. MCMAHON are observing their sixth wedding anniversary.

•

S. CLAUS is expected to arrive here tonight from the Northland with a print of his new production.

•

JACK DONOHUE, director of "Close-up," has left here to resume his post at the M-G-M studio on the Coast.

•

ISADOR M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore, is in town.

•

RICHARD LANDAU, RKO Radio writer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

TOM NEELY, National Theatre Supply manager in New Orleans, was in Southwest Louisiana last week.

•

JERRY WECHSLER, Warner branch manager in Cleveland, is being treated at Mt. Sinai Hospital, Cleveland.

•

PAT O'BRIEN is expected here early next month from the Coast.

Early Closings at Home Offices Today

Most film and circuit offices here will have a short work day today, Christmas Eve, and likewise on Friday. At a number of offices 50 per cent of the employes will have the full day off on Friday and those who work this Friday will not work next Friday, New Year's Eve.

Cameramen's Raise Approved by '644'

Membership of cameramen's Local No. 644 (IATSE) has voted approval of the wage raise and retroactivity arrangement for Eastern short subject cameramen which was arrived at here between representatives of 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and Universal and the local's business agent, Walter Lang, at last week's conference presided over by industry labor relations consultant Pat Casey. Local 644's approval brought to a close many months of negotiations between Lang and the companies.

Agreement calls for a $35-per-week pay raise over regular short subject cameramen's present $165, and a $15-per-week increase over assistant cameramen's present $75, both retroactive to July 1, 1946. Effective date of the contract will be Dec. 29.

4 of 6 Food-Group Shorts Are Ready

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Four short films have been produced by Hollywood studios for the Citizens' Food Committee and two more are in production, the committee revealed here today in a summary of its activities to date. Alan Ladd, Joan Crawford, John Garfield and James Stewart were the stars of the four films.

The committee report also mentioned the two-minute documentary made by the State Department and released during the week of Nov. 10, and credited the five major newsreel companies for their use of the committee's slogan at the end of all their reels.

Frank Cook, 83

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 23.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Frank Cook, 83, veteran showman and said to be this city's first motion picture theatre manager, who died last Friday at Mt. Sinai Hospital. A native of New York City, Cook started in the film business in this city in 1901, and in 1906, when Jack Saxe opened the Orpheum here, Cook became manager. His only survivor is a daughter, Mrs. Alice T. Stingl, here.

Probate Lubitsch Estate

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—Will of the late Ernst Lubitsch has been admitted to probate here. The producer-director left most of his $1,000,000 estate to his daughter, Nicola, with 15 per cent of it bequeathed to Nicola's mother, Mrs. Sanya Lubitsch.

News Briefs

DUE to the passing of Mark Hellinger, the sales meeting of Selznick Releasing Organization, scheduled for the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on Jan. 8-10, has been postponed. A new meeting date will be scheduled later.

Memorial services for Mark Hellinger will be held at two P. M. today in the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Chapel, New York. Hellinger, motion picture producer and former newspaper columnist, died Sunday in Hollywood. The services here, arranged by friends of Hellinger, will be held at the same time as funeral services for him in Hollywood. The eulogy here will be delivered by Quentin Reynolds.

Lachman Hails 20th's Normal Admissions for "Castile"

In releasing "Captain from Castile" at regular rather than advanced admission prices, 20th Century-Fox is making "a very distinct contribution to the welfare of the industry" and is "helping directly the independent exhibitor who is suffering at this time for a dearth of quality pictures," Edward Lachman, president of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, has stated in a letter to 20th-Fox president Spyros P. Skouras. Twentieth-Fox's "Castile" policy, Lachman added, "also re-establishes the principle that a theatre's scale is not to be trifled with because it is a contributory factor to the habit of going to the movies."

N. Y. First-runs Schedule Extra Holiday Performances

New York first-runs are scheduling at least one extra performance until the end of the holiday period on Jan. 2. Theatres plan to open at eight A.M. on the average excepting, of course, tomorrow, when they will follow the Sunday policy. Holiday prices will be charged tomorrow, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

St. Louis Owners to Fight Tax

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 23.—James H. Arthur, president of Fanchon and Marco, said the circuit and others will file a court action contesting the legality of the five per cent tax on theatre admissions as passed by the Board of Aldermen last Friday. The brief is expected to contend that the city exceeded its authority in levying the tax. Plans for the suit will be drawn at a meeting of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners committee.

Consolidated in Stock Split

OTTAWA, Dec. 23. — Consolidated Theatres shareholders at a meeting here approved a by-law splitting each share of the present stock into one "A" and three "B" shares of no par value.

Ralph McCoy Resigns from E-L

A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president of Eagle-Lion Films, reports the resignation, effective immediately, of Ralph McCoy, Southeastern district manager.

Newsreel Parade

SECRETARY MARSHALL'S report on the Big Four and the Friendship Food cargo reaching France are highlights in current newsreels. James Stewart making a plea for food conservation, varied sports and human interest items round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 34—Secretary Marshall home with report on Europe parley failure. James Stewart pleads for food conservation. Friendship Food in France. Secretary Anderson reports on U. S. wheat crop. New Air Forces jet bomber. Congressman Dingell urges reduction of "hidden taxes." Fashions for skating. Olympic ski stars.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 232—Aviation birthday: 44th anniversary. Secretary Marshall reports on the Big Four split. World's mightiest plane. France hails Friendship Food cargo. James Stewart's food message. Sport topics of the day.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 35—Ice-skate ball makes bow. "The Angel" returns. Russia sends a new envoy. Police drive homeless from Jap catacombs. Secretary Marshall reports on the Big Four. Friendship Food by the shipload.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 102—Secretary Marshall reports on the London conference. Jet bomber passes test. Tokyo railroad station houses homeless vagrants. James Stewart makes food appeal. Basketball on ice. Golden Glove tournament opens in Washington.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 37—World's largest crane cracks egg. France hails Friendship Food. James Stewart makes food plea. Kids' railroad sets record. New Jap midget car. Olympic skiers. Air hostessses in training. Ice-skate ball.

Filming Resumes In Chile Studios

By MARIA ROMERO

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 18 (By Airmail).—After a period of inactivity, the Chilean film industry is beginning a new era. Not only are Chileans working in the local industry, but well-known Latin American film personnel will collaborate.

Chile Films has signed a contract with Interamericana, an Argentine producing company, which will bring Argentine technicians and actors to Chile to produce in the studios of Chile Films, which has the backing of the Chilean government through the Corporacion de Fomento a la Produccion, an important stockholder. The combined companies have begun production on a musical.

Also actively engaged in production are the independent producers. Jose Bohr has rented the Santa Elena Studio and he has plans for four pictures.

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Cinecolor

(*Continued from page 1*)

out that the increase lies mainly in a step-up in the flow of both rawstock and equipment and the fact that his company has expanded its plant facilities.

About one year from now, however, when the company completes a new building on the Coast, Cinecolor will be in a position to increase its 1948 production rate by another 50 per cent, Blumenthal said. The company is now geared to process some 120,000,000 feet of film next year.

'New' Cinecolor Accomplishments

Blumenthal emphasized that most current Cinecolor pictures are not representative of the "new" Cinecolor, but are films from distributor backlogs accumulated before the company developed a wide range of chemical, directorial and technical improvements. He cited Paramount's "Albuquerque," and Columbia's "Prince of Thieves," among others, as examples of the "new" Cinecolor accomplishments.

All color processing companies in the industry can together accommomate only 20 per cent of the industry's potential, he said, holding that color pictures command more playing time and a greater number of play dates than black-and-whites.

Predicts Natural Color 'Ultimately'

Blumenthal said that no color process, including Cinecolor, has succeeded yet in bringing truly natural color application to the screen. But he believes this will be done ultimately.

Columbia will make seven in Cinecolor in '48, Eagle-Lion will make eight or nine; Pine and Thomas will produce three for Paramount, Boris Morros' "Babes in Toyland" and Al Rogell's "Song of India" for United Artists will be made in Cinecolor next year, and so will some 20th Century-Fox features and shorts, Blumenthal said, citing these as examples. Blumenthal will return to the Coast from here on Jan. 3.

RKO Joining TOA

(*Continued from page 1*)

their respective stands in the case. Both will become defunct with the disposition of the case. They are against certain sections of the New York decree.

There has been no indication that Loew's or Warners will change their attitudes and join the TOA.

RKO membership in TOA was also seen possible, according to Kingsberg, in an affiliation with TOA by Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, which comprises RKO and other majors' affiliates and numerous independents in New York.

Actually, principals of the Metropolitan group have discussed affiliation but its by-law against trade practice dealings stands in the way. TOA and Metropolitan work together on mutual problems.

TOA Tax Campaign

(*Continued from page 1*)

the items reported are the following:

TOA has approved four one-minute shorts supporting President Truman's food conservation program; various branches of the 16mm. industry failed in efforts to organize; the Associated Actors and Artists of America may prohibit the filming of radio shows for telecasts, etc.

"A Double Life"

(*Continued from page 1*)

to the insanely jealous Shakespearean nobleman who slays his wife in the play. His suspicion that Miss Hasso is in love with the play's press agent, O'Brien, leads him to the point of murdering her, but his own personality intervenes to the extent of diverting his murderous impulse to another girl with whom he has had a secret affair. When, by interesting complications and developments, the crime is traced to him and he is about to be arrested in mid-performance, he makes Othello's onstage suicide his own real one.

The script by Ruth Gordon and producer Kanin is an extremely well balanced and effective presentation of cause and effect, and George Cukor's masterly direction makes every scene and sentence of dialogue count importantly in the sum total.

Scenes from Shakespeare's "Othello" figure vitally and substantially in the film, but do not shunt the picture into the "arty" classification. By no means for children, the film is a quality job in every respect and a fine cinema experience for adults.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Intrigue"

(Star Films-United Artists)

A SHOCK-AND-THRILL drama starring George Raft and set at a brisk clip, this is a picture of popular appeal, produced by Sam Bischoff. The story concerns smuggling and black market intrigue, set in Shanghai, with a cast rounded out by June Havoc, Helena Carter and Tom Tully. The plot, however, is fashioned after strict formula lines, offering little in the way of freshness.

The screenplay, by Barry Trivers and George Slavin, opens with Raft, a former U. S. Army aviator, flying black market goods into Shanghai. It appears he had been dishonorably discharged from the Army because of smuggled goods found in his plane. As the story builds, Raft schemes and fights his way into a partnership with Miss Havoc, head of the black marketeers. Two things eventually happen that set Raft right again. He meets Miss Carter, a social worker, and Tully, a newspaperman out to expose the black market. In some vivid, documentary scenes which mark an intelligent highlight of the film, Raft learns of the terrible ravages of black marketing. In a bang-up finale, Raft smashes the ring and vindicates his Army discharge.

Raft gives a rugged performance; Miss Havoc cavorts in an array of fetching gowns that will catch many an eye. As the woman who helps regenerate Raft, Miss Carter is properly sedate. Tully is convincing as the newsman who dies for his ideals. Edwin L. Marin directed. The original story was by Slavin.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Set for January release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Ind. ATO Suggests Civic Film Councils

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—Citing the 16mm. field's "Film Councils" as carrying "a prescription that we think might well be adopted by commercial theatre owners for that ounce of prevention" when admission taxes and censorship threaten locally, the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana proposes that its member theatres examine the possibilities for organizing civic-minded filmgoers in their respective communities into groups which "will serve in good stead in contacts with the press, the rank and file of moviegoers, and public officials."

The 16mm. "Film Councils," the bulletin points out, include schools, churches, libraries, service clubs, veteran organizations, women's clubs and youth groups, with one aim being to serve educational and social motion picture needs in communities.

OHE Approves Theatre

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Elmwood Theatre Co. has been authorized to build a new $200,000 theatre in Hartford, the Office of the Housing Expediter announces.

During the week ending Dec. 19, OHE approved 10 theatre projects valued at $370,156, and denied 11, valued at $691,200.

UPA Orders Video Shorts

United Productions of America has been awarded a contract by Foote, Cone and Belding, advertising agency, here, to produce four television shorts.

Coast Guilds Pledge

(*Continued from page 1*)

study the possibilities of setting up a permanent means of coordinating and unifying the industry's approach to the public. Members of the subcommittee are Ginsberg, Freeman, Schary, George Stevens, William Wyler, Ronald Reagan, Gene Kelly, Sheridan Gibney and George Seaton, with Mendel Silberberg and Maurice Benjamin as advisers and Edward T. Cheyfitz as secretary.

Communism came up only briefly last night when the Screen Directors Guild representatives reported that its board of directors has adopted a resolution condemning communism, but also "disapproving" the public statement dated Nov. 25—when the Association of Motion Picture Producers concluded its New York conference on the industry policy on employment of subversives. The SDG board declared that the declaration by Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston is "fundamentally insincere, and . . . is promoting the very atmosphere of fear which the statement professes to deplore. . . ."

There was no discussion of this resolution at yesterday's meeting.

Local 84 Elects Obert

HARTFORD, Dec. 23.—Charlie Obert of the Allyn Theatre has been re-elected president of Local No. 84, IATSE, Hartford. Other officers are: John Sullivan, Palace, vice-president; Rube Lewis, Palace, business agent; Harry Sweet, Strand, secretary; Lew Mello, Loew's Poli, treasurer.

Average Canadian Admission 26 Cents

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—While the average admission price, excluding tax, for film theatres in Canada was 26.3 cents, the latest annual report released by the government shows that the actual general evening adult admission price, including tax, varied from less than 20 cents to 60 cents and over.

About 49 per cent of all theatres in Canada had a general evening adult admission price of from 35 to 45 cents, another 27 percent charged 26 to 34 cents, while about 12 percent charged 25 cents or less. The remainder, or about 13 percent, charged over 45 cents.

Canada Building Is Definitely Off

TORONTO, Dec. 23.—Theatre executives of Canada see the definite termination of theatre expansion programs with the enactment of an order of the Canadian government through Reconstruction Minister C. D. Howe providing for a tougher priority system of control on all imports of structural steel and metal equipment from the U. S., effective Feb. 1.

The cabinet spokesman, who had been authorized to administer the Dominion's economy regulations to correct the balance of international trade, reiterates that import permits would be granted for only the most essential construction projects and pointed out that "current investment for commercial, office, service and amusement purposes can and must be deferred."

The assertion was made that construction of theatres, bars and perhaps many office buildings would be stopped. In its first economy move last month a prohibition was placed on projection and sound equipment, air-conditioning units and lighting fixtures for theatres. Now plans for further theatres can be pigeon-holed.

Talk Ban Softening

(*Continued from page 1*)

Canadian government is now "examining some of the operations of U. S. company branches in Canada with the aim of achieving a better balance" in U. S. dollar transactions.

"We have every reason to believe that many of these companies can, if they make the effort, reduce the U. S. dollar drain which results from their Canadian operations," Abbott said, adding: "We want them to concentrate on the development of U. S. dollar sources of income with which to offset their U. S. dollar outlays."

Couston Heads Local F-45

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Results of Film Exchange Employes' Local F-45 election show Herman Couston, Columbia, elected president; Art Rosenthal, E-L, became vice-president; Chris Chinn, Columbia, secretary-treasurer, and Samuel Lamasky, Columbia, was elected business manager. New executive board includes George Benson, WB; Al Klinenberg, 20th Century-Fox; Florence Cohen, WB; William Hamm, Paramount.

AS WE SWING INTO 1948—

"Happy New Year Everybody!"

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" After breaking every record in the history of the Criterion, N. Y. during its sensational 9-week run, it continues its record-breaking, hold-over career across the nation. Mightiest spectacular drama since "Gone With The Wind." Earthquake, tidal wave, tribal warfare in this gigantic, romantic picturization of M-G-M's Prize Novel that 20 million readers are waiting for. Starring Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart.

"GOOD NEWS" Selected as New Year's attraction by hundreds of theatres to play simultaneously with its big-grossing World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall. Packed with *Technicolor* verve and joy, it moves with lightning pace. June Allyson's love affair is Peter Lawford, rapidly reaching top box-office draw, plus brilliant young Broadway stage stars. Great tunes, excellent dancing, swell fun. Picture runs only an hour and a half which means perfect set-up for top business!

"CASS TIMBERLANE" Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, terrific twosome co-starred with Zachary Scott. Just chosen as Picture of the Month by Cosmopolitan Magazine. First engagement in Buffalo following its great World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall confirms it as a BIG money show. A big-time production of the best-seller that packs humor and humanity, luxury, love and laughter into a warmly appealing romance. It's got everything for the millions of movie-goers. A honey!

"KILLER McCOY" Meet a NEW M-G-M Star! Yes, it's Mickey Rooney, co-starred with Brian Donlevy and Ann Blyth, and he's knocking them for a loop in all engagements. They advertised direct to the ladies, who loved it. The story of a sidewalk savage, who battles his way from the gutter to the heart of a girl uptown, brings you a sensational Mickey for big money.

"HIGH WALL" World Premiere Capitol, N. Y. confirms prediction that it will be a headline box-office attraction of 1948. Exciting, tense, romantic melodrama. Not since "Johnny Eager" has Robert Taylor had as powerfully rugged a role and Audrey Totter, a click in "Lady In the Lake," continuing to build to stardom, is his excellent romantic partner. Plus Herbert Marshall and big cast. Fresh direction and fast-paced handling make this a really important box-office picture. Every trade paper review is a rave!

(continued)

(continued)

"THREE DARING DAUGHTERS" It's *Technicolor* joy, it's musical gayety, it's laughter and romance as a dashing young divorcee (a NEW Jeanette MacDonald in better voice than ever!) tries to hide her second honeymoon plans with happy-go-lucky Jose Iturbi (wait 'till you hear his boogie-woogie!) from her mischievous daughters (Jane Powell, for one, and what a song-bird!) It's the most refreshingly different show of the new year.

"IF WINTER COMES" Wonderful news for the millions who cherish the thrilling story told in one of the great novels of our time and who will flock to see M-G-M's suspenseful production of it. Walter Pidgeon, so handsome in a role for romance-seeking women fans; Deborah Kerr, refreshingly beautiful, a new love for men folks. Three women in his life. Was he a love thief? Tense with suspense! Truly a woman's picture.

"THE BRIDE GOES WILD" Van Johnson as a fun-loving, happy-go-lucky author; June Allyson as a pert but shockable young artist. And the story of two who tried *not* to fall in love. A most appealing role for Van as he teams up again with lovable June in a sure-fire comedy romance. Butch Jenkins plays his biggest role to date and he is riotous. It's perfect entertainment for everyone.

"ALIAS A GENTLEMEN" Leave it to Wallace Beery to give the fans a show for their money. The screen's most lovable old rascal decides to become a gentleman when he comes out of jail to live on a hidden fortune. He prunes a prize rose, trips a fancy rhumba but also packs dynamite in a session with racketeers. Tom Drake, popular young romantic star gets gorgeous Dorothy Patrick for his partner. Plenty of thrills and fun for the folks.

"B. F's DAUGHTER" Millions of readers of the John P. Marquand Best-Seller will be delighted with the cast of stars selected to bring it to the screen. Barbara Stanwyck, Van Heflin, Charles Coburn, Richard Hart (of "Green Dolphin" fame) Keenan Wynn enact the powerful drama of the strong-willed daughter of the industrial tycoon who had everything but the man she loved. A great book has become a picture of blazing love, explosive drama and emotional suspense.

"THE PIRATE" Teams Judy Garland and Gene Kelly in a rich *Technicolor* Cole Porter musical extravaganza with provocative love story. Picture fans will royally welcome Judy Garland in an adorable singing role. This picture has genuine novelty of treatment and content and produced on tremendous scale is not only eye-filling but has outstanding musical score and is loaded with comedy and action. A great all-around entertainment.

"SUMMER HOLIDAY" Just screened in Home Office Projection Room! It's destined to be one of the talked-about pictures of 1948. A musical version of Eugene O'Neill's "Ah Wilderness!" produced magnificently in Technicolor. Truly the Great American Musical and every player hand-picked: Mickey Rooney, Gloria de Haven, Walter Huston, Frank Morgan, Butch Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell and many more. Watch for something big, gay, eye-filling, rich with song-hits. Directed by the man who made "Oklahoma!".

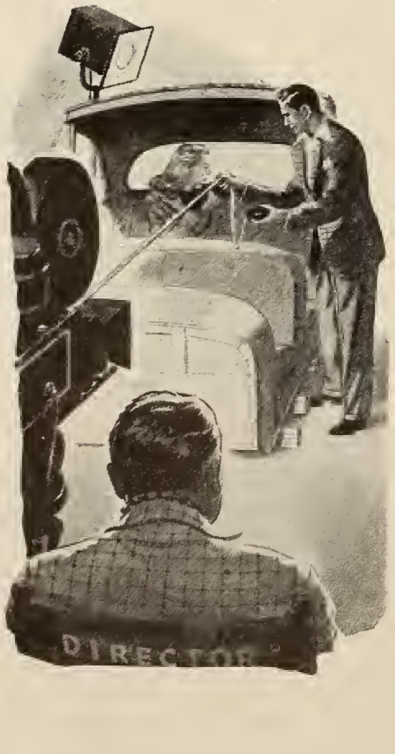
"ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU" Gorgeous Esther Williams and Peter Lawford, new idol of the fans, romantically together! Plus Ricardo Montalban, Jimmy Durante, Cyd Charisse, Xavier Cugat in a dashing *Technicolor* musical. The love story has a delightfully different, racy, new twist and the South Sea backgrounds are a perfect setting for Esther Williams' beauty. A gorgeous musical in the M-G-M manner for packed houses.

"THE KISSING BANDIT" Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson in a big and gay *Technicolor* musical with an unusual and intriguing plot and plenty of love songs for the stars to sing. It has a swashbuckling theme of the inaccessible high born girl and the daring kissing bandit, with thrills and excitement galore. Rich, racy, romantic for sure-fire returns! A gala audience attraction.

"HOMECOMING" (Tentative title). A perfect vehicle for Clark Gable! A grand, two-fisted, romantic role for Clark Gable! And the perfect choice for the girl who shares his pulse-pounding adventures: Lana Turner! And Anne Baxter and John Hodiak for plus star values! Its first preview in California held the audience spellbound. The applause at the end is the thrilling guarantee. You can put it down in the books as one of the Biggest attractions of the new year.

INDUSTRY'S NEW THEME SONG:

"M-G-M, GREAT IN '48!"



He makes the camera concentrate on her...

NOT by chance is this escaping beauty the center of attention!

Before the scene was shot, the assistant cameraman made very sure she would be. He kept background and foreground from stealing her scene . . . made the camera concentrate on her and her alone.

In achieving such exact focus . . . in attending to many another detail vital to the camera's operation . . . the assistant cameraman exercises a high degree of skill and displays an infinite capacity for taking pains.

Yet for a true reflection of his skilled, painstaking contribution to the picture, he must depend upon superior film, perfectly adapted to the job. This is why he welcomes working with one of the famous family of Eastman motion picture films . . . as he so often does.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTIO DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST F
NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

Stage Shows Supplant Films InUK Embargo

GB Is Latest to Adopt Shows at Some Test Runs

London, Dec. 25. — America's film embargo against England because of the British *ad valorem* duty on film imports and its resultant film shortages, has caused some circuits in England to supplant film programs with stage shows at some key runs.

Following tentative experiments by other motion picture theatremen, the Gaumont-British management is now going over in a big way to stage-shows for the Christmas season.

With the whole film reserves of the J. Arthur Rank Organization back of

(*Continued on page* 5)

Refers Clearance Bids to Ill. Allied

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Paramount's district office here is advising members of Illinois Allied that requests for earlier clearances must be made through Allied's buying-and-booking organization.

This possibly presages a conflict in the Allied ranks as member theatres in the same area, asking better playing time and not obtaining it because of the Allied set-up, are expected to ask individual deals with Paramount.

According to Morton Lane, Paramount attorney who had been here from the home office, this would have to be approved by Allied president Jack Kirsch.

Canadians Conserve Film Investments

Ottawa, Dec. 25.—Current investment selectivity to conserve American dollars has been proposed in the Canadian Parliament by C. D. Howe, Reconstruction Minister, mentioning significantly enough those for "amusement purposes."

"Such programs as low cost housing and industrial development, which will produce United States dollars, will have high priority, but much of our current investment for commercial, office, service and amusement purposes can and must be deferred,"

Film Stocks In '47 Off $300-Millions

Reflecting foreign problems and domestic curtailments, motion picture shares listed on the New York Stock Exchange dropped some $300,000,000 in market value during 1947.

The stock market in general is about to finish the year just about where it started. Commodity markets soared to the highest levels since 1917. Business news generally was favorable. Better showings over last year were demonstrated in such barometric items as bank clearings, steel production, railroad freight car loadings and retail sales.

In the foreign field, film company profits were hit by a move on the part of dollar-starved countries to restrict imports of American motion pictures. The chief development in this respect was the action of the British government in imposing the 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax on earnings from American films.

To meet the impact of rising costs and increasing earnings, many parts of the industry started a retrench-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Film Dividends Rise To $13,403,000

Washington, Dec. 25.—Dividend payments by motion picture companies rose to $13,403,000 for the quarter period of Sept.-Nov. from the $12,459,000 of the same period of 1946, the U. S. Commerce Department reports.

Payments last month, however, were only $228,000, compared with $320,000 in Nov., 1946.

Proposes Worldwide British Expansion

Expansion of film production in the British Commonwealth is proposed by Frank Launder, British film producer, now visiting Australia, the Australian Information Bureau here reports. He said that star material, writers and technicians should be sought in every country of the British Commonwealth, and advocated the building of large studios in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa and a big integrated system of Commonwealth film production.

702 Theatres Are In Chicago Area

Washington, Dec. 26.—There are 702 theatres with a seating capacity of 595,179 operating in the Chicago exchange area, according to a theatre directory released today by the Motion Picture Association.

The 16th in a series of 31, the directory discloses that 337 theatres, seating 358,667 are in this area's four largest cities: Chicago, Gary, Peoria and South Bend. Chicago has 302 theatres in operation, with a seating capacity of 324,409. The Chicago theatres average 1,074 seats per house, in comparison with a 345-seat average for 121 theatres in 114 towns with a population of 2,500 and under.

Peak Year for Foreign Films Ahead; 190 Coming

Representing an increase of more than 50 per cent over 1947, distributors of foreign films in the American market will release next year close to 190 European features, most of them of Italian and French origin.

The substantial increase is about commensurate with the number of U. S. theatres which have converted to the exhibition of pictures from abroad, bringing the total to about 250, according to a survey by Vog Films. Additionally, some outstanding imports are being presented by circuits, including Loew's, RKO, Century and Skouras.

Companies handling foreign product here all see a peak year ahead in 1948, against 1946's little more than 10 foreign-film houses in operation in the United States.

Mundt Bill Is In More Difficulties

Washington, Dec. 25.—Hopes for early application of the Mundt Bill to solve the frozen-funds situation abroad have been jolted by an official State Department opinion to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In answers to questions proposed by Sen. Smith, chairman of a sub-committee charged with redrafting the bill, the State Department said:

1—The bill as drawn does not give it power to do anything but buy films, books and other information media outright, and distribute them abroad. It does not cover any of the various

(*Continued on page* 5)

CourtRuleMay Bring Upped Price Refunds

See 'Adjustments' from Advanced Admissions Ban

Some exhibitor leaders in the field are understood to believe that the upholding of the New York Federal Court restrictions on price-fixing by the U. S. Supreme Court when it rules on the New York case, may bring beneficial rental adjustments to exhibitors who have played increased-admission pictures.

Accordingly, they are advising members to maintain complete records of all distributor negotiations, contracts and verbal understandings involved in advanced - admission bookings. This is disclosed here by exhibitor and sales executives back in New York from recent theatre association meetings in the field.

The advice of the exhibitor leaders to members is predicated on the feel-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Companies Report To Court Next Week

The five theatre-owning defendants in the Paramount, *et al*, anti-trust case next week will again advise the New York Federal Court that they intend to await the U. S. Supreme Court's decision on appeals before embarking on extensive theatre-holding adjustments.

These, in compliance with the lower court's decree provision, would be in the form of increases to 95 per cent or decreases to five per cent in interests in theatres, scheduled to become effective on Dec. 31, 1948.

The five companies are to report to the court on any such changes at three-month intervals, the deadline for the next being Jan. 1.

$17,231,000 Gross On 'Duel in the Sun'

Approximately 94 per cent—some $16,296,000—of the $17,231,000 David O. Selznick is understood to have grossed during the year on his "Duel in the Sun" has come from theatres within the United States.

Selznick's accountants say that al-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, will leave here Jan. 7 for a Miami vacation.

•

FLOYD M. BILLINGSLEY, business manager of IATSE Local No. 162, San Francisco, has been appointed a member of that city's World Trade Center Authority by Gov. Earl Warren of California, and ANTHONY L. NORIEGA, president of the local, has been named to the California State Correctional Industries Commission.

•

MICKEY ROONEY and JOSEPH CALLEIA are among passengers who will sail from New York tomorrow for England on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

CHARLES LESTER, Southern district manager for National Screen Service, and MRS. LESTER are in town from Atlanta.

•

BEN OLETSKY has been appointed manager of the Laffmovie Theatre, Baltimore, succeeding HELEN NORK, resigned.

•

ROBERT HELMS, formerly with Universal-International, has been named manager of the Kay Exchange in New Orleans.

•

MRS. GRATIA B. LOCKE of the Savoy Amusement Co., Louisville, is visiting in Chicago.

•

MR. and MRS. MELVIN F. COLIN of Milltown, Ind., have purchased the Iris Theatre at Lyons, Ind.

•

AL LICHTMAN, M-G-M producer, plans to return to the Coast from New York shortly after Jan. 1.

•

HARRIETT FRANK, M-G-M studio story scout, will arrive here from the Coast this weekend.

•

CHARLES LAZARUS, M-G-M salesman in Detroit, is vacationing here.

Modification of Eire Tax Is Refused

DUBLIN, Dec. 20 (By Airmail).—Eire's Minister for Finance has informed a deputation of exhibitors that he can see no reason for modifying the increase in admission taxes due to be effective Jan. 16. The Minister feels that attendances will not be adversely affected after a period of readjustment to the new prices. He has hinted that he might reconsider the tax scales if after a reasonable period of trial the exhibitors' worst fears are realized.

One of the first moves exhibitors will make is to press renters for reduced film rentals, which they think will have to come down to a 25 per cent level. The trade in general feels that many independent exhibitors will now be absorbed by the larger circuits, which can operate on a smaller profit margin and which have the added advantage of circuit booking.

News Briefs

MANIE M. GOTTLIEB, Universal-International district manager, who supervises the Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Minneapolis exchanges, won first prize in the company's 22-week "Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Sales Drive," it was disclosed here on Wednesday by William A. Scully, U-I vice-president and general sales manager.

Second prize went to Dave Miller, who heads the Albany, Buffalo and New Haven district, and third money was won by Barney Rose, supervisor of Portland, San Francisco and Seattle. Western division, headed by C. J. Feldman, scored top place in the drive with the Eastern division, headed by Fred Meyers, second, and the Southern division, headed by F. J. A. McCarthy, taking third post.

Seek FM License Extension To Three-Year Period

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—An extension of license periods for frequency-modulation radio stations to three years has been asked of the Federal Communications Commission by the FM Association. In a letter to the FCC, Leonard H. Marks, the association's general counsel, pointed out that when FCC fixed the one-year license period for FM stations, there were approximately 50 such stations on the air. "Today 369 FM stations are in operation and an additional 654 already have been authorized for construction," it was said.

Goldenson Heads Boy Scout Campaign Beginning Jan. 7

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president, has been appointed chairman of the amusement division campaign for the Greater New York Council's Boy Scouts of America. The drive will get underway with the annual "Dawn Patrol" breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Jan. 7. Emil Friedlander, chairman of the board of Dazian's, Inc., will assist Goldenson.

$7,053 for Blind from 'Bishop'

The Lighthouse of the New York Association for the Blind cleared a net profit of $7,053 on the New York Astor Theatre premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife." Last year the organization sponsored the initial showing of Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives."

Van Praag Resigns

CHICAGO. Dec. 25.—Morton Van Praag has resigned as sales manager of All-American News, a post he held for the past year.

A.S.Brown,AscapFounder

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—A. Seymour Brown, 65, song-writer and a founder of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, died on Monday at his home here. Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ellen De Grasse Brown.

85c Top Admission For Mexico City

Mexico City, Dec. 25.—The local civic government has finally fixed 85 cents as the maximum admission generally for first-run product, but occasionally will allow a $1 admission on Saturday and Sunday for exceptional films.

Exhibitors themselves here say that 85 cents is about all the public will stand. They claim business has declined 35 per cent since last fall.

Expect Additional Building Controls

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—January 8—or shortly thereafter—may bring more bad news for those desiring to build or remodel theatres, for that is the day when the U. S. Commerce Department is set for a meeting with steel industry executives in an attempt to work out the first of a series of voluntary agreements on industry allocation of critical materials. Commerce has made no secret that it thinks theatre building one of the least essential steel users, and will likely suggest that the theatre industry cut down on what it allots to its field. Steel industry response is still a big question.

The "voluntary agreement" program is still embryonic, but Commerce officials hope to work out schemes on other building materials.

11 More Apply for Television Permits

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Eleven new applications for television stations are before the Federal Communications Commission, as follows:

Constitution Publishing Co. and Liberty Broadcasting, Atlanta; Massachusetts Broadcasting, Boston; Westinghouse Radio, Pittsburgh; Jack Gross Broadcasting, San Diego; Cherry and Webb Broadcasting, Providence; Miami Industry Co., Miami; S. H. Patterson, San Francisco; Stephens Broadcasting, New Orleans; Cincinnati Times-Star, Cincinnati, Jefferson Standing Broadcasting, Charlotte.

The THEATRE GUILD presents
the RKO RADIO PICTURE
"MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA"
TWICE DAILY 2:30 and 8:30 PM
3 PERFORMANCES SUNDAY
at 2:00, 5:15 and 8:30 PM
RESERVED SEATS ONLY
GOLDEN THEATRE
45th St. W. of B'way

Joan CRAWFORD Dana ANDREWS Henry FONDA
"DAISY KENYON"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus On Stage — Lanny Ross - Wiere Bros.
Beatrice Kraft & Co. - Hollace Shaw
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NEW YORK THEATRES

NOW PLAYING!
WILLIAM ELLIOTT
JOHN CARROLL
CATHERINE McLEOD
THE FABULOUS TEXAN
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's
"GOOD NEWS"
June ALLYSON • Peter LAWFORD
Patricia Marshall - Joan McCracken
In TECHNICOLOR
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

BOB HOPE
SIGNE HASSO
WM. BENDIX
in
"WHERE THERE'S LIFE" A Paramount Picture
in Person STAN KENTON And His Orchestra JUNE CHRISTY Extra VIC DAMONE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JOHN WAYNE · LARAINE DAY in
TYCOON
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

IT'S GOT THAT ACADEMY AWARD LOOK!
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
CARY GRANT · LORETTA YOUNG · DAVID NIVEN
"The Bishop's Wife"
Doors Open 9 A. M ASTOR B'way at 45th St.

John Ford and Merion C. Cooper present Argosy Pictures'
THE FUGITIVE
HENRY FONDA · DOLORES DEL RIO · PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
Directed by JOHN FORD
Released by RKO Radio Pictures
VICTORIA Broadway at 46th St.

Gentleman's Agreement
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.
20th CENTURY-FOX

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The SENATOR heads
for the HOWL of fame...

1948's great comedy hit from the studio that gave you "The Egg and I"

"Tip-top entertainment of a type audiences haven't had in a long time and could stand.

—*VARIETY*

"Sparkling satirical comedy . . . top-notch."

—*SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW*

"Laugh-provoking satire...headed for the better returns."

—*THE EXHIBITOR*

"Rollicking satire . . . Expert handling all the way. An eye-opening entertainment."

—*THE FILM DAILY*

"A delightful romp . . . redeemable at any boxoffice!" —*MOTION PICTURE HERALD*

Universal-International
presents
A NUNNALLY JOHNSON PRODUCTION
WILLIAM POWELL
in

"The Senator Was Indiscreet"

with ELLA RAINES · ARLEEN WHELAN · RAY COLLINS
and introducing PETER LIND HAYES
Screenplay by CHARLES MacARTHUR
From the Collier's Story by EDWIN LANHAM • Associate Producer GENE FOWLER, Jr.
Directed by GEORGE S. KAUFMAN

Universal International

'Henry' Net Here In '47: $1,350,000

J. Arthur Rank's "Henry V" netted $1,350,000 for Rank and United Artists from showings in the U. S. during 1947 in some 350 theatres at advanced admissions, Harold Auten, Rank's special representative in handling the picture's sale here, reports.

American profit on "Henry" far exceeded that made here by any other British-made picture this year, Auten added.

Film Stocks In '47

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment program. This was highlighted late in the year when RKO cut its dividend in half, declaring a payment of 15 cents a share to stockholders of record on Dec. 15, compared with the previous quarterly dividend of 30 cents.

The company had reported its net income for the 39 weeks ended Sept. 30 was $11,376,632, equal to $1.76 a share, against $16,163,906, or $2.59 a share in the 39 weeks ended Sept. 30, 1946.

Other leading units in the industry which reported lower earnings included:

Other Leaders Also Decline

Paramount, with a net of $15,512,000 for the nine months ended Oct. 4, compared with $33,877,000 for the nine months ended Sept. 28, 1946. This was equal to $3.63 a share, against $4.51 a share last year.

Twentieth Century-Fox, whose net of $10,608,098 for the 39 weeks ended Sept. 27 was equal to $3.65 a common share, compared with $16,219,815, or $5.69 a common share in the 39 weeks ended Sept. 28, 1946.

Other reports indicative of the trend were those of Universal, which had a net income of $2,470,167 for the nine months ended Aug. 2, against $3,206,354 in the nine months ended Aug. 3, 1946, and Republic, whose net for the 13 weeks ended July 26, 1947, was $233,022, compared with $444,949 in the 13 weeks ended July 27, 1946.

Columbia, E-K 'Favorable'

On the favorable side of the earnings ledger were Columbia Pictures and Eastman Kodak, but their reports were for periods ending in the first half of the year and too early to reflect any trend.

Columbia in the year ended May 31, 1947, had a net income of $3,706,541, equal to $5.33 a common share, compared with $3,450,490, or $5.22 a share, in the preceding year.

Eastman reported a net income of $20,299,661 for the 24 weeks ended June 14, 1947, against $15,992,956 in the 24 weeks ended June 15, 1946. The net in the 1947 period was equal to $1.63 a common share, against $1.28 a share the year before. The company declared a dividend of 55 cents a common share to holders of Dec. 5, compared with 35 cents a share paid Oct. 1.

State Ends Vaudeville

Loew's State Theatre here on Tuesday ended, on a tentative note, its vaudeville policy which was in effect for 26 years. House has turned to double-features as a second-run, but first-runs will be reverted to from time to time.

Reviews

"The Voice of the Turtle"

(*Warner Brothers*)

OUT of the flimsiest of story substance comes a delightful film and a first-class job of picture-making. "The Voice of the Turtle"—the reference is from the Bible, of course—skirts delicately and even perilously on thin ice, but artful and seasoned production hands check it from being towed under.

This attraction is a film version of John van Druten's highly successful stage play. It is a wartime comedy-romance with three principals. One is Eleanor Parker, young actress who has been hurt at least once by love too freely given to Kent Smith, stage producer. The other is her wisecracking actress-friend, played for much amusement and to the hilt by the competent Eve Arden. Third is Ronald Reagan, soldier-on-leave who is thrown across Miss Parker's path when Miss Arden becomes embroiled in another weekend date with Wayne Morris.

The action, if it may be called that, is compressed into this single weekend. Disappointed Reagan is thrown on his own. Having broken with Smith, or rather he with her, Miss Parker also is disengaged. This is enough to bring the boy and girl together.

In a crowded New York on a teeming night, Reagan can find no hotel accommodations. With never a beguiling thought, Miss Parker offers him the sofa in her living room. He accepts, stays the night in his assigned quarters while the girl, unpurloined, occupies her own bedroom. In the morning they have breakfast, discuss their unconventional, yet wholly innocent, situation and, because there has developed mutual attraction, decide to spend the next day together.

By that evening, however, Reagan has located a room for himself. But by a second invitation he determines to remain in Miss Parker's apartment another night until the attraction magnetizing the two approaches a complexion of something else. At that point, Reagan leaves but not before he and Miss Parker know, and acknowledge, that it is love. The ever-so-slight story thread ends on an intention of marriage.

Laced throughout are the comedy provided by Miss Arden and the complications facing her with a brace of her men friends in the city at the same time and the many chuckling moments developing out of joint efforts by Reagan and Miss Parker to keep Miss Arden out of their hair. Introduced along the line of travel are other incidents which never assume importance but add to the general pleasantries.

In "The Voice of the Turtle" what happens is of much less weight than the adroitness with which it is caused to happen. Little pieces of business, clever and ingenuous, build the end results for what they are. Those end results establish an attraction of considerable charm and appeal to which Miss Parker makes a decidedly major contribution; she is excellent. Reagan is thoroughly believable, likeable and topnotch as the male opposite.

Charles Hoffman, who produced, and Irving Rapper, who directed, have done an understanding job where understanding obviously was a prerequisite in avoiding the crevasses.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set. RED KANN

"Bill and Coo"

(*Republic*)

THE novelty of a feature picture with a starring cast of 273 love-birds will intrigue many, especially the kiddies. Filling out the stellar cast are a crow, a guinea pig, two horned toads and an assortment of monkeys, kittens, chipmunks and a baby alligator. The careful guiding of the troupe through their paces in an enjoyable drama must have been an enterprise of labor and love. Ken Murray deserves praise for bringing his production, based on his "blackouts," to the screen.

Filmed in Trucolor, the story concerns Bill and Coo, a pair of love-birds in courtship in the community of Chirpendale. Life in this little community hums along happily, until one day the ominous shadow of a crow falls over the settlement. The crow's terrorization of the community and his eventual capture highlights the dramatic content of the story. The little feathered thespians are at best when a circus comes to town. Here they perform feats of amazing skill and intelligence.

There are no humans at all in the production, except in a prologue in which there appear Murray, George Burton, who owns the love-birds, and Elizabeth Walters. Dean Riesner directed, from a screenplay by himself and Royal Foster. Musical scores were under the direction of Lionel Newman, with music by David Buttolph.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Set for January release. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Stage Shows in UK

(*Continued from page* 1)

it, film distributors may well see disturbing significance in the circumstance that the circuit is deliberately dropping films, at least in five of its biggest theatres, at the year's most lucrative season.

Circuit officials admit that they have been influenced in their decision by the film shortage following on the American embargo. They add, they planned for stage shows anyway.

Court Rule

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing that in the event the price-fixing restrictions are upheld by the high court, the ruling will have been in effect since it was handed down by the New York court back in June, 1946, and distributors, possibly, could be forced to make adjustments on rentals of high-priced pictures marketed between that date and the date when the Supreme Court sustains the price-fixing restrictions, if it so rules.

US Film Lead in Iran Is Faltering

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—U. S. films at present have a larger share of the Iranian market than ever before, but theatre owners there are beginning to take more films from Europe, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report.

The report, prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden, states that Persian exhibitors experienced difficulty during the war in getting films from other countries, and so increased their orders for U. S. films. But they object to the block-booking required by American distributors, and now that films from other countries are available, they are beginning to take them.

U. S. films gross about $1,000,000 annually in Iran, the report estimates.

Mundt Bill

(*Continued from page* 1)

"conversion" schemes that have been proposed, or any of the subsidies.

2—The Department must consult with other top fiscal agencies of the Government before making any recommendations of the bill on possible solutions or wording of a broader bill.

This official opinion came as a complete reversal of earlier State Department "informal" thinking, which concluded that the bill as drawn was broad enough for anything worked out.

To make sure, however, Sen. Smith asked the Department for an official opinion and possible solutions and the lawyers came up with a slightly different answer.

J. Noel Macy, charged with arriving at an answer to frozen-funds tangle, admits he has a scheme circulating in the Department now for other officials to "shoot at," but points out that before this is cleared with the Treasury, Budget Bureau, the National Advisory Council, and other U. S. financial agencies, many weeks may go by.

There is no way of telling now whether leaders on "The Hill" will want to delay passage of the Mundt Bill until some solution is worked out.

'Duel' Gross

(*Continued from page* 1)

lowing 30 per cent for distribution costs, he is said to have just about broken even on his much discussed picture. From the New Year on returns will be entered in black ink on the profit side of the ledger, it is said. The picture still has 980 first-run dates to fulfill.

"Duel" has a reported negative cost of $5,250,000 and an advertising budget of $2,000,000. The picture was distributed by Selznick's own distributing company.

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MAYFAIR, New York
7th WEEK
APOLLO, Chicago
Additional Premiere
Engagements New Year's Day

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CAMEO—Miami
PALACE—Los Angeles
BEVERLY—Beverly Hills
J. P. HARRIS—Pittsburgh

Darryl F. Zanuck
presents
Gregory PECK · Dorothy McGUIRE · John GARFIELD
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Gentleman's Agreement

with
Celeste Holm · Anne Revere · June Havoc · Albert Dekker · Jane Wyatt · Dean Stockwell · Sam Jaffe
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VOL. 16, NO. 124 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1947 TEN CENTS

Theatre Takes Suffer from Big Blizzards

Carrier Service Is Hit; Newsreels Film Storm

What was described as one of the worst blizzards since the big one of 1888, knocked the bottom out from under theatre business at the weekend as savage snow storms lashed and blanketed the Middle Atlantic and New England states.

However, while grosses suffered severely generally, most of New York's Broadway houses—particularly those which opened new films on Christmas Day—found that the snow could not keep holiday celebrants from following through on their film-going plans. Comparatively long lines of customers were evident outside Radio City Music Hall and the Paramount Theatre. "Good News" and a Christmas stage presentation, and "Where There's Life" and Mel Torme and his troupe on stage are the bills at those houses, respectively.

Full details of Broadway business

(*Continued on page* 4)

RKO's 15 Outside Films Tops Majors

RKO Radio will wind up 1947 with the record of having the most independent product among majors, the company reported here yesterday, having handled some 15 independent productions during the year. Among

(*Continued on page* 4)

Jenkins Gives First Show for Foundation

Atlanta, Dec. 28.—What is believed to have been the first benefit show in behalf of the Motion Picture Foundation was given here at midnight last night at the Fox Theatre, a unit of Atlanta Enterprises. William K. Jenkins, president of the circuit, announced that the entire proceeds will be donated to the fund with nothing deducted for use of the theatre. A second performance at the same theatre is scheduled for Feb. 21. Jenkins is a national trustee for the fund.

$31,091,909 In Nov. Taxes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—November tax collections, reflecting October box-office receipts, were off just a shade from Nov., 1946, collections, according to figures released today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue but they were quite a bit below Oct., 1947, collections.

General admission tax collections for November totaled $31,091,909, compared with $31,265,451 in Nov., 1946, and $37,743,023 in Oct., 1947. This includes admissions to legitimate theatres, sporting events, and other general admission events, but does not include taxes paid on certain overcharges and cabaret and roof garden taxes.

Total tax collections including the latter groups, amounted to $35,073,227 in November, compared with $43,058,427 in October and $36,393,291 in Nov., 1946. Cabaret taxes suffered the largest year-to-year drop, falling from $4,900,000 in Nov., 1946, to $3,900,000 in Nov., 1947.

Praises Industry's Stand on the 'Reds'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, dean of the School of Public Relations of Boston University, has joined the list of key figures congratulating the industry on its procedure in dealing with the problems of Communism and subversive elements.

"All of us might as well face the fact that when the U. S. Government asks us to state whether we are members of the Communist Party, we have

(*Continued on page* 4)

Thriving Northwest Seen by Johnston

Spokane, Dec. 28.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, predicts that the Pacific Northwest will be more prosperous in 1948 than any other area. Johnston is here for the holidays.

The Federal Government is putting more money into this area for development than it is collecting in taxes from the district.

Canadian Censors Hit 16mm. Films

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—There is a growing opposition in Canada to what is considered to be a tightening by certain provincial authorities against the showing of 16mm. films with this trend considered to be dangerous not only to the trade but to demorcatic principles.

Quebec banned the showing of "Les Enfants du Paradis" and by "courtesy" a similar restriction was placed on the film in Ontario. The CIO film, "Deadline for Action," was banned on the ground of being Communistic propaganda in Quebec, though when it was seen by a representative group of newspapermen in Canada it was found by them to be "not Communistic, though highly critical of big business." In addition, the Alberta government in Canada has banned 16mm. films well regarded elsewhere in this country.

Under these circumstances, there is now seen developing here a trend in banning films simply because they are not liked and it is felt this is cause for exhibitor action.

Stronger Competition From U.K. in Canada

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—The British film industry is going to provide much more competition to the United States film industry in selling its product in the Canadian market, and this expansion will be an aid to the Canadian government's plan to conserve American dollars in the coming months by spending less for films from the United States, with the belief that more British-made feature films, shorts, etc., will be shown in Canadian theatres.

It is known in official circles in Ottawa that British studios are to step up productivity not merely to provide more films for the domestic market in the United Kingdom, but for such overseas markets as Canada. More British films sent to Canada will provide more dollars with which Britain could purchase much-needed food stuffs in this country. Only recently lack of dollars found Britain forced to buy less of certain essential products in Canada, including lumber, food, etc. Consequently, it is believed that Canada would welcome an increase in British film shipments to this country and itself would like her studios to bolster their output.

Wehrenberg Sees Early UK Tax Break

Calls for Harder Work, Showmanship in 1948

"The British tax situation will be solved on an equitable basis early in 1948 and . . . due to the Marshall Plan and other postwar factors, the overall foreign market for American motion pictures will actually increase in the next 12 months."

That optimistic note was sounded at the weekend by Fred Wehrenberg, board chairman of Theatre Owners of America, in a statement issued through the TOA office here.

But Wehrenberg, in examining general industry prospects for 1948, cautioned producers, distributors and exhibitors not to expect the new year to bring net profits or gross income equal to the records set in 1946, "or even perhaps to those of the year now coming to a close."

The next year, he said, "will be a happy and prosperous one . . . provided we all work hard and efficiently to make it so." He added: "First of

(*Continued on page* 4)

$370,000 Columbia Net for 13 Weeks

Columbia Pictures' estimated net earnings for the 13 weeks ending Sept. 27, 1947, amounted to $370,000, compared to $965,000 for the same period in 1946, according to Harry Cohn, president. The earnings for the 1947 period are equivalent to 46 cents per share of common stock; the 1946 profit equalled $1.39 per share.

Operating profit for the 13 weeks

(*Continued on page* 4)

Urges 50% Cut in Canada Remittances

Toronto, Dec. 28.—A 50 per cent reduction in dollar remittances to the U. S. for films is urged by M. J. Coldwell, Parliamentary leader for the Canadian opposition party, the Commonwealth Cooperative Federation.

Coldwell criticized the Canadian government for not cutting the expenditure of $17,000,000 annually for American films.

Personal Mention

JOHN NOLAN, Comerford Theatres executive, was host to hospitalized children at St. Vincent's, here, yesterday at a holiday party and special performance of Suzari's Marionettes.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left here over the weekend for Cincinnati.

•

K. STREUBER of Streuber and LACHICOTTE, theatre equipment dealers for overseas, will leave here today for the Midwest.

•

MERVYN LEROY and his wife will leave Hollywood Jan. 5 for New York.

•

CARL KNUDSEN, exhibitor at Red Cloud, Neb., has been confined to his home following a heart attack.

•

LOUIS DENT, president of Westland Theatres, Denver, is hospitalized in Phoenix, Ariz.

•

BEATRICE ROSEN of 20th Century-Fox's duplicating department here, and TED KALMAN will be married in March.

•

BENEDICT BOGEAUS and his wife, actress DOLORES MORAN, are due in town today from Hollywood.

•

JACK COHN, Columbia vice-president, is in Miami from New York.

Salsbury, 62, Dies; Was Para. Executive

Henry L. Salsbury, 62, an executive on the staff of Russell Holman, general manager of Paramount production department in the East, died in his sleep here Christmas Eve. He was one of the oldest employes of the company. Born in Austin, Tex., he began his career in New York as a dentist. Through his practice, he met Jesse L. Lasky and was offered a position on Lasky's staff.

Surviving are his widow, Lynn; three brothers, Archie, Albert and Joseph; four sisters, Miss Byrde Salsbury, Mrs. Mabel Weinberg, Mrs. Ruth Coan and Mrs. Gertrude Cerf.

Tom Mix Memorial

FLORENCE, Ariz., Dec. 28.—A memorial topped by a saddled but riderless horse has been unveiled 18 miles south of here near the spot where Tom Mix, film cowboy, was killed in an auto accident several years ago.

Buys Projector Company

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 28.—L. J. Gardiner Co., manufacturer of projectors, has been sold to the Columbus Production Manufacturing Co., Harry L. Mellman, general manager of the purchasing company, announces. Gardiner plans to retire and devote his time to his farm. Mellman has two partners, Myer W. Mellman, office manager, and Ralph G. Shroyer, production manager.

News Briefs . . .

WARNER theatre managers of Albany, Troy, and Utica, all in New York have been urged by C. J. Latta, zone manager, and C. A. Smakwitz, assistant, at a meeting here to check expenses and reduce them to a minimum. Itemized accounts of each house for five years were analyzed and it was shown some items had increased 200 and 300 per cent.

Managers were instructed to conserve oil, in view of shortages, and to requisition purchases in advance to take advantage of favorable market conditions.

Elliott Johnson Wins Eagle-Lion Ad Contest

Prizes have been awarded by Eagle-Lion Films to the winners of the company's nationwide "Repeat Performance" contest, with first prize going to Elliott Johnson, advertising manager of the Malco Theatre in Memphis for the best all-around exploitation campaign.

Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Eagle-Lion reported an increasing use of individually-slanted campaigns, based on particular local situations' needs and specific outlets. Judges included Youngstein, Walter Brooks, Managers Round Table, *Motion Picture Herald,* and Chester Freedman of *Boxoffice.*

Consolidated, Local No. H-63 Begin Contract Negotiations

"White collarites" of Consolidated Film Laboratories, Fort Lee, N. J., have voted 40 to 0 to be represented in collective bargaining by the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union Local H-63 (IATSE), and the company and the union have started negotiations for a contract.

Other elections will be held by the local at Pathe Laboratories, Bound Brook, N. J., and New York City, and at Paramount Newsreel as soon as the National Labor Relations Board completes processing of applications.

Philadelphia Independents Form Their Own Association

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Independent Film Distributors of Philadelphia has been formed here by a group of state-right distributors who have applied for a charter to operate as a nonprofit organization. Organizers are Jack Engle, Screen Guild; Benny Harris, American Films; Carl Munzer, Hollywood Films; Edward Gabriel, Capitol Films; Nelson Wax, Box Office Films, and David Moliver, Principle Film Exchange.

New $100,000 Studio Underway in Dallas

DALLAS, Dec. 28.—Construction of a $100,000 studio and laboratory for Jamieson Film Co., producers, is now under way here.

Included in the new building will be the laboratory and four cutting rooms. The studio will have 8,500 square feet of floor space in addition to 10,000 square feet of landscaping.

PRODUCER Sam Spiegel and writer-director John Huston have formed Horizon Productions on the Coast to make an undetermined number of features, including Dostoevsky's "The Idiot." Distribution channel is as yet undetermined. Production on the first film, which has not been designated, will begin in late May, following completion by Huston of "Key Largo" for Warner Brothers.

Selznick's End of "Duel" Is Now About $7,237,020

David O. Selznick's return as producer of "Duel in the Sun" is now approximately $7,237,020. This is based on a theatre gross of $17,231,000 this year.

"Duel" deals are on a 60-40 basis which, on the above figure, places the distributor's end at $10,338,600. Distribution at 30 per cent thus far has cost $3,101,580, which leaves $7,237,020 for the producer. At a reported negative cost of $5,250,000 and an advertising budget of $2,000,000, total investment in terms of these two factors is $7,250,000.

This tends to substantiate the assertion that "Duel" enters the profit area with playdates effective in 1948.

200 Film Men at 1st Video All-Film Conference Jan. 26

Chester Kulesza, film supervisor of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn, has been named program chairman of the television industry's first all-film conference which will be held at the Hotel Commodore, New York, on Jan. 26, it was announced by Irwin A. Shane, general chairman. Representatives of television, advertising and film interests will take part.

Approximately 200 film men will be present. Advance registration includes representatives from March of Time, 20th Century-Fox, United World, Pictorial Films, Paramount, Post Pictures, Bray, Precision Laboratory, Favorite Film, Equity Film, International, Commonwealth Pictures, Hoffberg Productions.

Wayne Coy Named FCC Head

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Wayne Coy, *Washington Post* radio executive, was named at the weekend by President Truman to be the new chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He succeeds Charles Denny, who resigned a few weeks ago. Coy is also head of Station WINX here. George E. Sterling of Maine was also named to membership on the FCC, following the resignation of E. K. Jett.

Wallerstein Heads Records Board

Edward Wallerstein has been advanced from president to chairman of the board of Columbia Records, with Frank K. White stepping up from vice-president and treasurer of Columbia Broadcasting to president of the record subsidiary.

Newsreel Parade

FOUR of the current newsreels are devoted to a review of 1947 events.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 35—Year-round review.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 233—Symposium of 1947.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 36—1947 in review.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 10[illegible] Low-priced helicopter. New troop [illegible]sport glider. Students in Germany. Presentation of Collier trophy. Novelties of France. Woman celebrates 106th birthday. President Truman's new dog, Feller. Basketball. Ice hockey.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 38—Sports review of 1947.

685 Theatres Are In Charlotte Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—There are 685 theatres with a seating capacity of 329,527 in operation in the Charlotte exchange territory, according to a theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 17th in a series of 31 directories, the directory reveals that 60 theatres, with a total capacity of 47,153 are in this exchange area's seven largest cities. Charlotte has 13 in operation with a capacity of 8,619.

Charlotte theatres average 663 seats per house, in comparison with a 353-seat average for 298 theatres in 273 towns with a population of 2,500 and under.

13 More Apply for Television Permits

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Federal Communications Commission has received 13 additional new applications for television stations in the past 10 days, as follows:

Summit Radio, Akron; WPIT, Inc., Pittsburgh; A. H. Belo Corp., Dallas; Channel 10; South Bend *Tribune*, South Bend, Ind.; Isle of Dreams Co., Miami; KROW, Inc., Oakland, Cal.; Miami Valley Co., Dayton; Lehigh Valley Broadcasting, Allentown, Pa.; Wyoming Valley Broadcasting, Wilkes-Barre; Pearl Lemmert, Bakersfield, Cal.; Hawley Broadcasting, Reading, Pa.; L. F. Corrigan, Dallas; and Atlanta Journal Co., Atlanta.

Exhibitor Fined

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 28. — Max Wald, manager of the Gayety, was fined $25 and costs by Judge Fred Donnally in Police Court after he pleaded innocent to exhibiting improperly censored films. Wald's attorneys filed a motion for a new trial. Similar charges were lodged against Edward Salsburg, manager of Screen Guild exchange, Cincinnati, by John Lamb, inspector for the Ohio division of film censorship. Lamb said the case grew out of the showing of a film titled "I Have Lived." Salsburg's case was continued after his plea of innocent.

Fire Destroys Theatre

FAIRMONT, N. C., Dec. 28.—The Capitol Theatre here was destroyed by fire.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane. Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays. Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc.. 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley. President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley. Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan. Treasurer; Leo J. Brady. Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris. Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau. Yucca-Vine Building. William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road. N. W.: London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address. "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald. Better Theatres. published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York. N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879 Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies. 10c.

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NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
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Ecuador Does Not Contemplate Curbs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28. — Ecuador does not contemplate any quotas or similar measures which might reduce or prevent the distribution of U. S. films, according to a Department of Commerce report.

The report, prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden on the basis of information from the U. S. embassy in Quito, paints Ecuador as an almost perfect foreign film market, with no home-produced pictures, no trade restrictions discriminating against motion pictures, no quotas, moderate taxes, and lenient censorship.

Mexico is the greatest U. S. competitor in Ecuador theatres. Of 344 pictures released in 1946, 257 were from the U. S. and only 65 from Mexico, but Mexican films account for nearly 60 per cent of gross admissions. The report attributes this to the fact that most Mexican films are well made, while the U. S. sends Ecuador many "B" pictures and does not screen out subjects which the natives dislike.

Wehrenberg

(Continued from page 1)

all, the box-office dollar must be shared fairly by all."

The extent of the industry's business health in 1948, Wehrenberg said, "depends largely upon several vital factors." He cited them:

"Another cycle of stiff wage increases, too much liberality with our national income in trying to solve the problems of nations beyond the seas and a continuation of wasteful Governmental operations at the national, state and city levels; any one or a combination of them could very quickly change the outlook. There must of course, be some sound thinking by the leaders of industry, labor and government along true American lines," he added.

Wehrenberg touched on "competition" and "incompetence." Said he: "The competition for the available dollars of recreation and entertainment in America is getting tougher day by day and those incompetents in the industry who have been slipping by in the lush war and postwar years despite their lack of ability and knowledge of proper merchandising of the products of Hollywood, I fear, are in for a real sad awakening in the days ahead. They will either have to change their methods or 'the parade will pass them by.'"

He assailed demands by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for higher fees and the "fast spreading movement for additional municipal taxes" as threatening conditions "that would force many motion picture theatres out of business." He called for admission prices which the public "can afford to pay."

Columbia Profit

(Continued from page 1)

ended Sept. 27, 1947, was $630,000, with an estimated provision for Federal taxes set at $260,000. Operating profit for the 13-week 1946 period was $1,540,000, with a tax provision of $575,000.

As of Sept. 27, 1947, 638,352 common shares were oustanding, and on Sept. 28, 1946, 622,782 common shares were outstanding.

Technicolor Delivers 20% More Footage

Hollywood, Dec. 28. — With approximately 182,000,000 feet delivered during the first 10 months of this year, compared with 153,000,000 feet for the same period in 1946, Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president of Technicolor, says, the number of Technicolor prints sold and delivered monthly in the past year has increased about 20 per cent. He also said that when Technicolor's expansion plans are completed, capacity will be doubled. The company is gradually cutting down its backlog of undelivered prints at the present pace of operations, he added.

Production Drops To Only 22 Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 28.—The production level slumped to 22 from 29 of last week. Filming started on only two pictures while nine were sent to film cutters.

Shooting started on "Recoil," Republic, and "Mr. Joseph Young of Africa," an Arko production for RKO Radio. Shooting finished on "Best Man Wins" and "The Eternal Melody," Columbia; "Master of Lassie," Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer; "Rawhide Trail," Monogram; "A Connecticut Yankee" and "Hazard," Paramount; "The Bold Frontiersman," Republic; "Guns of Wrath," RKO Radio, and "Sitting Pretty," 20th Century-Fox.

RKO's Outside Films

(Continued from page 1)

these were: Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," "The Bishop's Wife" and "A Song Is Born," Walt Disney's "Fun and Fancy Free" and "Song of the South," Argosy's "The Fugitive" and "War Party," Lasky-McEwen's "The Miracle of the Bells," Leo McCarey's Rainbow Production "Good Sam," "Robert Riskin's "Magic Town," Hakim Brothers' "The Long Night," Independent Artists' "The Velvet Touch," Sol Lesser's "Tarzan and the Mermaids," Rene Clair's "Man About Town," and the RKO Aguila production of "The Pearl."

Praise Industry

(Continued from page 1)

two responsibilities," Dr. LeSourd told MPA president Eric Johnston.

"One is an individual responsibility, the consequence of which must be individually borne. The other is a collective responsibility, the consequences of which we may not assume as individuals even though we would. If anyone is unwilling to accept institutional responsibility, he should free the institution from any obligation to him or expect it to write him off as a liability.

"You seem to be arriving at a democratic procedure in Hollywood to effect a just application of these principles," he told Johnston, adding: "You certainly deserve the support of all of those to whom we are indebted for so many fine pictures."

US Scophony Appeal Expected Next Week

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Filing of a Government brief appealing the lower court decision in the alleged Sherman Anti-Trust Act violation by Scophony interests, is expected next week, according to Justice Department officials here. Oral argument for the appeal before the Supreme Court has been set for the week of Jan. 12. Scophony is said to control patents on perfected large-screen television.

The appeal is from a decision of the New York District Court handed down Oct. 30, 1946, which held that the Government's charges were incorrect and that the Scophony interests through their representatives in the U. S. were "not" doing business in this country.

Filing of the original suit in Dec., 1945, charged Scophony Ltd., an English television firm, with cartel arrangements of their patents, along with other interests in the U. S., which was in violation of the Sherman Act.

Big Blizzards

(Continued from page 1)

will appear in MOTION PICTURE DAILY tomorrow.

It was "tough going" over the weekend for film delivery services. A number of carriers reported trucks stuck in snow drifts, and at least one of the truckers here found it necessary to have snowbound vehicles' prints "rescued" and delivered by taxis.

Meanwhile, the blizzards set up chilly assignments over the weekend for newsreel cameramen in the New York, Boston and Washington areas, and forthcoming reels of Movietone News, News of the Day, Universal Newsreel and Warner Pathe News will carry scenes showing Ol' Man Winter's debut in the three cities.

Paramount News decided not to film the snowfall, concluding that "people won't want to be reminded of it."

Greer Promoted to United Theatres' Post

DALLAS, Dec. 28.—John C. Greer has been promoted from head-booker for Screen Guild Productions of Texas to assistant buyer and head booker for United Theatres Service Corp., by John L. Franconi, United's president. Companies are affiliated.

Employ 12,226 In Canadian Theatres

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—The 1,477 motion picture theatres in Canada provided employment for 12,226 persons and of these 1,270 were proprietors or partners actively engaged in operations, it is disclosed in an annual report by the Canadian government for last year. The 10,956 employes earned salaries and wages amounting to $10,466,251. Projectionists and assistant projectionists numbered 2,060 and drew wages of $3,633,444.

Seek 10-Million Audience Increase

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 28.—Despite strong opposition of 35mm. theatre owners here, a 16mm. exhibition program has been set in motion by Peliculas Nacionales, distributor of some of Mexico's leading producers, with a view toward increasing the number of Mexico's regular filmgoers from 6,000,000 to 16,000,000. The country's population is approximately 23,000,000.

First shipment of a large order of 16mm. projectors has already arrived here from the U. S. to be used in conjunction with the program, and large-scale activity in reduction of 35mm. prints to 16mm. is in progress.

Oscar J. Brooks, former Warner manager here, who heads Peliculas Nacionales, claims that Mexico soon will be independent of the U. S. in the matter of 16mm. films.

New Company Is Formed in Italy

ROME, Dec. 22 (By Airmail).—A new production and distribution firm, Associated Artists and Technicians, has been formed here to handle both foreign and domestic product. Capital was put up by Duke Luchino Visconti Di Modrone, Alfredo Guarini, Antonello Trombadori and Egisto Cappellini.

Italy and Bulgaria have signed a general trade agreement, which includes provisions for Italy to export to Bulgaria motion picture equipment worth $100,000 and films worth $25,000.

An association of the motion picture trade press, Consorzio Italiano Stampa Cinematografica, has been formed here to support and make easier contacts between foreign and domestic production interests.

Ridder Heads March Of Dimes Division

Victor Ridder, New York publisher, has been named chairman of one of the four major fund-raising sections of the Greater New York 1948 March of Dimes, including the film industry section, by Robert W. Dowling, chairman of the commerce and industry committee. Under Ridder's leadership are the professions, printing and graphic arts, advertising, entertainment, the trade paper and the service businesses.

UA House May Revert

United Artists-owned Broadway Theatre, here, a first-run before it was closed two weeks ago because of a lack of product, may revert back to stage shows. Company is now negotiating with Lee Shubert.

New Equipment Firm

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 28.—Capitalized at $50,000, Theatre Equipment Co. has been organized here. Incorporators are R. C. Saunders, Charlotte, and Lewis and W. E. Saunders of China Grove.

Delay 'Eternal Return'

Opening of "The Eternal Return," first Discina International film to be released in this country by its own distributing organization, has been postponed to Saturday, Jan. 3, at the 55th Street Playhouse, here.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST
NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 125 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPTOA Hits Bidding, Asks Arbitration

Motion for Amicus and Oral Argument Filed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—A plea for Federal Court authorization of industry arbitration or its equivalent and an outspoken denouncement of competitive bidding are the highlights of a Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America motion for leave to file a brief as *amicus curiae* and to be heard in oral argument in connection with the appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry.

The motion, filed by Herman M. Levy, counsel, relates that MPTOA, now merged into Theatre Owners of America, retained its identity for the purpose of making its application to the Supreme Court. American Theatres Association, the other component of TOA, seeks to intervene in the anti-trust suit and also retained its identity for that purpose.

The MPTOA motion contends that lack of an industry arbitration system

(*Continued on page* 30)

Daily INS Video Newsreel Service

What was described as "the first complete" daily television news service was announced jointly here yesterday by International News Service, International News Photos and Telenews Productions, Inc.

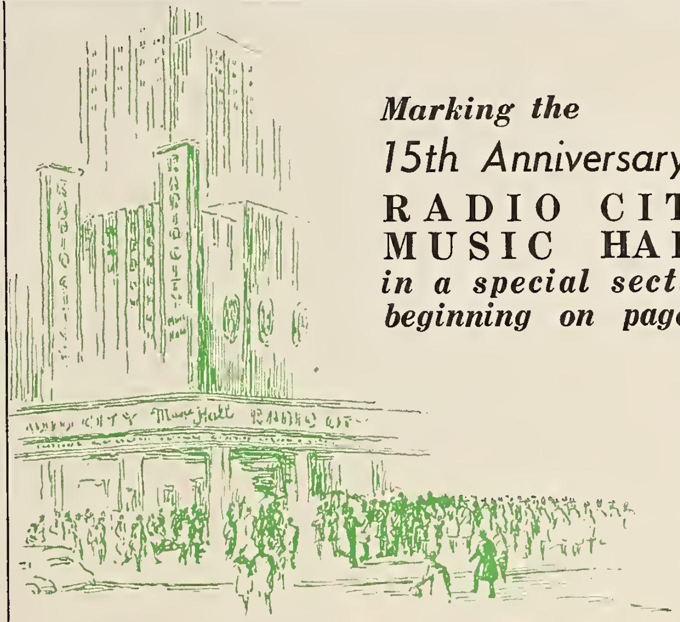
The three organizations will produce a daily service of newsreels, still news photos, and teletype news, spe-

(*Continued on page* 30)

Unexchanged RKO Securities Sale

Radio-Keith-Orpheum reports that, pursuant to its original plan of reorganization, it will sell, promptly after Feb. 16 on the New York Stock Exchange, all common stock which at that time has not been claimed by stockholders and creditors of the predecessor corporation entitled to receive common stock under the reor-

(*Continued on page* 30)



Marking the
15th Anniversary
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
in a special section beginning on page 3

Rodgers Promotes Helfont at MGM

Promotion of Irving Helfont and expansion of his M-G-M office duties have been announced by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president.

Having previously acted as home office assistant to George A. Hickey, Western sales manager with headquarters in Los Angeles, as well as New York contact for M-G-M's Canadian sales executives Helfont now assumes

(*Continued on page* 29)

Enterprise Parley Starts Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29.—Production and distribution problems will highlight Enterprise Productions' annual planning conferences which will open here Wednesday. David Loew, chairman of the board; Charles Einfeld, president, and George Schaefer, distribution head, will preside over the week-long sessions. All of the company's producing partners will be represented.

1948—Year of Opportunity, Responsibility for Films

By SHERWIN KANE

Another eventful year is written into industry annals as 1947 draws to its close. The headlines of the year recorded numerous happenings of major significance, the effects of which are certain to be reflected into the New Year at hand and perhaps beyond it.

The outstanding development of 1947, trade observers agree, was the loss of revenue from foreign markets. Culminating in the cessation of film shipments to Britain, the drying up of the springs of foreign revenue set off chain reactions that were felt, and will continue to be felt, in all corners of the industry at home.

It is worth noting that foreign revenues were not lost to the industry through any shortcomings of its own. The sorry postwar state of the world's economy forced nation after nation, as in England, to exclude films or to take measures which led to their exclusion solely because their dollar supplies were so depleted they were forced to choose between food and entertainment.

Food, it seems, is important, too.

Looking ahead to 1948, it is evident that no permanent improvement is to be expected in the international financial picture at an early date. It is, therefore, essential to the industry that it look to a continuance of some of the operational reforms begun in 1947 if it is to effect improvements in its own state.

The year now ending saw the introduction of economy programs in virtually all phases of the industry,

(*Continued on page* 29)

End of Storm Brings Sharp First-run Rise

Friday's Loss Was 25%; New Films Fare Best

New Yorkers swarmed back to theatres yesterday after the city's worst snowstorm on record cut attendance by about 25 per cent last Friday and held it to well below normal for a holiday weekend over Saturday and Sunday, with but few exceptions.

New product fared best over the weekend at New York's Broadway first-runs, with the majority of the several films which bowed in on Dec. 24, 25 and 26 suffering a business loss of only about 10 per cent, considering what could be expected normally for a Christmas holiday weekend.

The 25 per cent loss was approximately the same for neighborhood houses here and throughout the storm area, which included Southern New England, Eastern New York, New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, with lesser storm effects in Central New England, Central New York, Western Pennsylvania, Maryland and Northern Virginia.

Theatre losses from the storm on

(*Continued on page* 28)

Allied to Take Ascap Fight Back to D.of J.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. — Allied States Association will take its fight against Ascap back to the Justice Department early in January, according to Allied counsel Abram F. Myers.

When Allied last went to the Department, it was advised that the Government could not act until exhibitors had exhausted all remedies under the

(*Continued on page* 30)

MPEA May Quit In Germany, Japan

The Motion Picture Export Association, which has invested to date approximately $1,000,000 in its operations in Germany and Japan, is seriously considering withdrawing from those countries unless the U. S. Government makes an arrangement whereby MPEA can convert into dollars at least a portion of the huge sums in

(*Continued on page* 30)

Personal Mention

GENE ARNEEL, of MOTION PICTURE DAILY's editorial staff is in Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, having sustained a fractured leg in a fall during the blizzard here last Friday.

•

HENRY L. NEEDLES, Warner Theatres district manager in Hartford, has become a grandfather again with the birth of a son to MR. and MRS. ERWIN NEEDLES.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, Universal-International associate producer, and his actress-wife, JOAN FONTAINE, have been spending the holidays in Suffield, Conn.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to M-G-M's director of public relations here, was a guest speaker recently before the Springfield, Mass., Lions Club.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, studio representative for RKO Radio here, is vacationing at Miami Beach and is due back here next Monday.

•

J. E. MCLEORY, Monogram sales representative in Charlotte, is in Crawford Hospital, Atlanta, for surgery.

•

FRANK RIFFLE, Altec field manager in Louisville, has returned to his post following a short stay in the Eastern part of Kentucky.

•

TONY STERN, Warner film buyer, and his family are vacationing here from Cleveland.

•

JACK LEFTON, prominent in Ohio film circles until his retirement a year ago, is seriously ill in Los Angeles.

•

CHARLES LAZARUS, M-G-M salesman in Detroit, has returned to that city from here.

•

JIM MCCARTHY, Warner Strand manager in Hartford, has resumed duties following an operation.

'Brotherhood' Luncheon

As chairman of the motion picture division of American Brotherhood Week Spyros P. Skouras will organize the industry's campaign at a luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria, here, on Tuesday, Jan. 6. Guests will include Robert P. Patterson, former Secretary of War and Brotherhood Week chairman, Herbert H. Lehman and Dr. Everett R. Clinchy.

Photo Credits for Music Hall Section

Radio City Music Hall photographs in this issue by Cosmo-Sileo Associates. Photos of auditorium and costume room by Herbert Gehr, courtesy *Life* magazine.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL comes up to its fifteenth birthday firmly established as the pre-eminent theatre of the world. That took a bit of doing.

The distinguished architecture and design of the Music Hall, its richness of furnishings, the comforts of its accommodations, its equipment wonders, the luxury of its spaciousness, added up only to a monumental and daring venture when its doors first were opened to the public on Dec. 28, 1932.

It required the highest order of showmanly intelligence to put to proper use the superlative facilities the Music Hall affords within its vast dimensions.

The Music Hall policy of its early days provided lavish shows within a theatre gem of rare setting and, like a gem of rare setting, the Music Hall then belonged not to the masses but to the few.

Ultimately, it became apparent that if the Music Hall's 6,200 seats were to be kept occupied four or five times daily throughout the year, year in and year out, the motion picture audience could not be excluded.

•

Films came to the Music Hall. Carefully blended with stage entertainment characterized by unfailing good taste in production and material as much as by diversity of appeal, institutional programs evolved which derived character from the great theatre and repaid it with a reputation for the finest in entertainment. In the years that followed, that reputation spread around the world.

It was that careful selection and blending of screen and stage attractions by Gus Eyssell, president and managing director of the Music Hall, and his predecessor, the late W. G. Van Schmus, that made the Music Hall the First Theatre of the World.

More than 7,000,000 patrons attend the Music Hall every year. It is close to the top on the sightseeing list of every visitor to New York. Its audiences make it the finest show-window, the most valuable testing ground, for motion pictures, because its audiences, having no geographical boundaries, represent that diversified taste that produces the entertainment norm for the world.

At the Music Hall, under Eyssell, there is a consciousness of responsibility to that audience that has overcome the danger, common to enterprises as huge as the Music Hall, of becoming cold, impersonal institutions. Courtesy and service are watchwords of the theatre. All personnel is carefuly chosen. No attendant in contact with the public is permitted on the floor until he has first completed a two weeks' training course. The Music Hall visitor is well cared for, in consequence.

•

A not at all isolated incident in the daily routine of the Music Hall occurred last mid-week when a long-distance call came to Eyssell's office from Lincoln, Neb. The caller was making a holiday visit to New York. He wanted to see the Music Hall's Christmas show. Would it be possible for him to get two tickets for Saturday?

The reserved section of the Music Hall was sold out for the holiday weeks ago. It could have been sold three to five times over. The Music Hall's holiday holdout lines stretch for blocks away from the box office; often involve hours of waiting on line.

Yet, through the kind of miracles that Music Hall service performs, tickets were found for the visitor from Lincoln, Neb. And through that courteous friendliness that transforms the Music Hall from huge spectacle into charming entertainment center, there were representatives of the theatre on hand when the visitor called for his tickets on Saturday to let him know that the world's greatest theatre was appreciative of his unmistakable interest in it.

It is incidents of this kind, multiplied over and over through the Music Hall's years that have made it the First Theatre of the World. It helps to explain why they turn to it in such numbers that this year it changed programs only 11 times; last year only eight.

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SIGNE HASSO
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15th Anniversary
Radio City Music Hall

MOTION PICTURE
DAILY
DECEMBER 30, 1947

By TERRY RAMSAYE

AT THE CORNER of Fiftieth Street and the Avenue of the Americas in New York the world's greatest theatre, the Radio City Music Hall, this month—opened December 28, 1932—passes its fifteenth milestone. In a decade and a half it has become the most authentically and completely American of all theatrical institutions.

It is on the sound, secure center of the mad isle of Manhattan, in its special way representing and serving the nation. The Music Hall has come to relate itself to the United States in a broad sense in that particular fashion that the successful local theatre relates itself to its locality. That takes and has taken a bit of doing. The Music Hall has arrived somewhat in the large and general as part of a Rockefeller project and a Rockefeller policy, and by execution through various personalities and degrees of evolution and execution into the showmanship of Gustav S. Eyssell, that quietly dynamic fellow who runs the Music Hall.

The man and the policy are so integrated it is not possible to tell them apart. Rather a long time ago, as time is counted these speeding years, the Rockefeller interests became broadly interwoven with the whole structure of industrial and social America. A feeling, a sense and an interpretation of that has been carried over into expression in what is the Music Hall. It was not exactly so designed in the beginning, but that is what comes out, by sheer force of gravitation.

The Music Hall represents and averages.

It is typical and tremendous.

It has come into the American category of the biggest, the highest. It rates with Niagara Falls, the Big Trees of California, the Grand Canyon and the Natural Bridge. It is required looking.

Without intended unappreciation of Big Business it is to be observed that Destiny took a hand, the controlling hand, in the making of today's Music Hall and that it is not at all what it started out to be. Way back yonder in otherwise depressed days,

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL:
The First Fifteen Years

THE fifteenth anniversary of the founding of Radio City Music Hall, New York City, is an event of interest and significance to the whole amusement industry.

¶ In the decade and one-half since the inaugural performance at the Music Hall this great theatre, through the maintenance of a consistent standard of excellence in all of its manifold activities, has been developed into an institution that is both distinguished and unique.

¶ At the outset the vision and enthusiasm of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., endowed the Music Hall with a physical plant of a magnitude and character never previously realized. The vastness of the scheme, in its purposes and in its financial investment, precluded a career of mediocrity. It had to become either a great success or a spectacular failure. There is no uncertainty in the record of the past fifteen years.

¶ The Music Hall screen provides a setting that enables the motion picture to sparkle at its best. Through the fifteen years the management of the Music Hall has provided a distinctive type of supplemental entertainment that has helped many motion pictures to greater success and has hindered none yet, wisely, the management has never wavered in the judgment that it is the motion picture itself upon which the fortunes of the institution mainly depend.

¶ The initial success of the Music Hall was gained under the adroit direction of the late W. G. Van Schmus and has been brilliantly continued by his associate and eventual successor, the present managing director, Mr. Gus S. Eyssell.

¶ Mr. Eyssell, his associates and staff have well earned the hearty congratulations due them on this fifteenth anniversary occasion.

—MARTIN QUIGLEY

G. S. EYSSELL

THE MAN WHO DIRECTS RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, invariably attributes the success of the enterprise he heads to: "My associates."

He views himself as the captain of a working team, in this instance a team of more than 600 members. His ability to direct it, to instill in its members his own acute sense of effective teamwork, is one of the outstanding qualifications which Eyssell brings to his work. It is a part of the equipment fashioned in the years of his extensive show business background in his native Kansas City, in Los Angeles, throughout Texas and on Broadway.

The Eyssell career, like the traditional American success story, began modestly. Starting as after-school-hours assistant to the manager of the little Isis Theatre, a Kansas City neighborhood house, it takes him inevitably to his administration of the world's premier theatre.

In January, 1933, Eyssell was invited to join the executive staff of the Radio City Music Hall, the world's greatest theatre. Continuing to distinguish himself there in the years that followed, the reins of the great theatre were paced in his hands in January, 1942. He was made managing director of the Music Hall, president of Radio City Music Hall Corp., was elected a member of the board of directors of Rockefeller Center, and was made managing director of the latter's Center Theatre.

In the ensuing six years, they all have prospered. Eyssell comes to the fifteenth anniversary of the Music Hall with an uninterrupted record of progress and achievement.

(Continued from preceding page)

when building costs were low and the spirits of capitalistic America were lower, it was decided that there should be a real estate revolution in the middle of Manhattan to make, if you please, an investment anchorage. The decision seemed to be that if the world went to pot, maybe New York real estate would be the last. That would seem to have been a reasonable conclusion since the value of any site seems to be mainly dependent on how many persons go past in a given period.

So it came that what with the aggressive modernistic pitch of radio on the one side and the conservatively intrenched and socially rooted institution of opera on the other, there was a project to give the Rockefeller Center real estate an artistic, if not spiritual, focus as the new home of the Metropolitan Opera. To put it elegantly into the vernacular of the period, that idea fell on its kisser—for an assorted array of reasons too detailed for recording here. This deteriorated, socially, into a Rockefeller project to make it a center of vaudeville—that same vaudeville which was at the time dying most rapidly. This culminated in that astonishing opening that December night in 1932 ending at 3 o'clock in the next morning.

The very name Music Hall was evidence enough that the initial concept was patterned on European entertainment policies in address to the masses. The Hall was obviously too big for the art.

The opening show was probably the biggest debacle in terms of pretentiousness and costs ever presented on any stage. The morning after the scurrying for a policy and talent began right after breakfast.

It had been designed that the motion picture was to be but the merest incidental of Music Hall programs. It was clear at once that to man that vast stage in front of 6,200 seats required actors about eighteen feet tall, or else armies of entertainers presented en masse. That is what came out first, actors projected to scale on the world's biggest indoor theatre screen, seventy by forty feet, and second, spectacles, exemplified by the overwhelming pictorial precisions of the long, long line of forty-six Rockettes. The problem was met by the motion picture's capacity for optical amplification, and for the girl spectacles by sheer multiplication.

The project initiated as an undertaking under the administration of motion picture and radio interests was soon to emerge separated from them and more directly integrated with the Rockefeller institution of Radio City. Early in this process it became evident that there was a softly spoken, firm, grey man of poised maturity about observing. He was the late William G. Van Schmus, who had come out of industrial engineering, by way of contact with the late Ivy Lee, public relations counsel to the House of Rockefeller. It was not long until Mr. Van Schmus became managing director, and rising in authority as his assistant came Gus S. Eyssell, who had entered by way of the RKO theatre department.

J. D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Founder of
Rockefeller Center

They evidenced a decided temperamental kinship. It was merely a coincidence that both enjoyed the heritage of substantial Dutch ancestry, and that alike they had had wide experience with many publics.

The Music Hall was proceeding with conservative cautions, like a great ship finding itself at sea. It was the world's biggest theatre, but yet far from being the greatest. Few of the best pictures were available, and the biggest producers were not looking for Music Hall dates, yet. A persistently aggressive but modest publicity and advertising policy was building fame and crystallizing a new order of following for the policy—a middle-of-the-road address at the great spending middle class of America. The organization was built to create and support a policy, precisely in a period where many of the most imposing theatres of the land were abandoning a program policy in pursuit of roadshow type exploitations of major pictures—permitting the picture to dominate the house.

When in the fullness of his years Mr. Van Schmus died, Gus Eyssell was ready to step into command and presently was announced in his present title as president and managing director of Music Hall Corporation.

Meanwhile the Music Hall had found itself and levelled off into the policy which has made it the showplace of the nation, with an appeal and a following as broad as the map of America. With that has come command of the superior product as it is available in the pattern of Music Hall presentations.

This all-American policy is decidedly an expression of the man who administers it. Mr. Eyssell might be called Mr. America himself. Despite the fact that he is the master showman of the world's greatest theatre, he is the quiet sort, unostentatious, softly spoken and generally unruffled in executive calm.

There is of course a limit to that. Under provocation he can take off with a rush of fire and heat like a rocket. But having had his rapid say, the manifestation subsides as swiftly as it came, and the firm calm is on again.

Notably Mr. Eyssell, who grew up out in Kansas City and who has functioned in theatres from coast to coast, specializes quite as much in knowing what not to do as in what to do. He knows the people who fill his seats, personally. He is by way of being one of them. He lives in an apartment up on New York's Riverside Drive and has a pair of binoculars handy to watch the ships in the Hudson. He has been down to see the Statue of Liberty, Grant's Tomb and the observation rooms. He does not care for night clubs and hot spots, but he does go to the stage shows and probably sees everything resembling a success on Broadway. On his way up town in the evening, he is likely as not to drop into two or three theatres in succession, to observe the audience and operation.

Just incidentally, down the Avenue of the Americas at Forty-ninth Street is the Center Theatre, which in tribute to the Eyssell success at the Music Hall was tucked under his supervision, too. It was built originally to be the Rockefeller Center motion picture theatre, before Destiny delivered the screen to the big Music Hall. The Center has for a while now been the home of a series of ice shows, somewhat a sort of vaudeville incidental, reversing the ambitious plans for the great house up the street. Once again the motion picture triumphed over the arts of the stage.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

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HATTIE ROGGE
Costume Dept. Director

J. F. DAILEY
Administrative Assistant

EDWARD SERLIN
Press Representative

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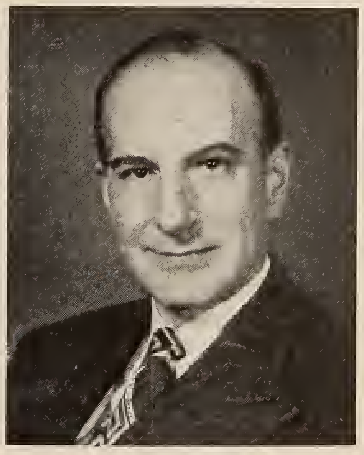
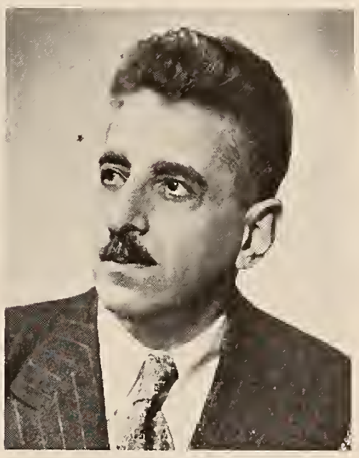
LEON LEONIDOFF
Vice-President and Senior Producer



R. V. DOWNING
Vice-President and Comptroller

FLORENCE ROGGE
Associate Producer and Ballet Director

RUSSELL MARKERT
Producer and Rockettes Director

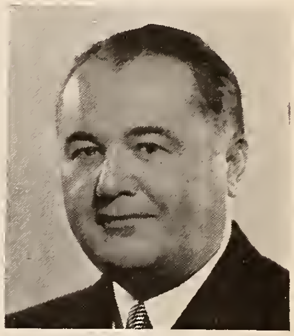


ALEXANDER SMALLENS
Director of Music

FRED L. LYNCH
Advertising-Publicity Director

GENE SNYDER
Co-director, Rockettes

IRVING EVANS
Stage Manager



FRED A. CRUISE
Theatre Manager

ARTHUR CLARY
Boxoffice Treasurer

EUGENE BRAUN
Stage Lighting Director

Fifteen-Year Record Holders

of RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Pandro S. Berman

John Cromwell

Cary Grant

Katharine Hepburn

By RED KANN

Radio City Music Hall is a repository of a lengthy array of interesting records on motion pictures. Here are a few:

From Jan. 11, 1933, to Jan. 8, 1948, when the current run of "Good News" may be supplanted by "The Paradine Case," the Hall will have run 367 attractions bulking playing time of 783 weeks and two days. This always coveted playing time was divided among nine distributors of whom RKO Radio led the rest with 208 weeks and five days of screen time filled by 112 attractions.

M-G-M held second place with 180 weeks and two days, but it is required to point out it took only 42 attractions with which to do it. Interestingly, it was Columbia which was in third position with 123 weeks and 59 films while fourth was 20th Century-Fox with 100 weeks and five days for 61 attractions. United Artists was fifth with 90 weeks and 46 films; Warners, sixth with 31 weeks and 19 shows; Universal, seventh with 28 weeks, plus four days, and 17 attractions; Paramount, eighth with 18 weeks and eight films and Gaumont-British (1934-35, the years) ninth with three weeks and three pictures.

M-G-M ranked first among the distributors on two other approaches. Outdistancing by far all competition, 17 of this company's attractions have played the Hall five weeks or more apiece. Closest rival was RKO Radio with five. Columbia was third with four, and 20th Century-Fox fourth with three. Paramount, United Artists and Universal had one each for a grand total of 32 attractions in this distinguished category.

It was to M-G-M, as well, that top honors in playing time for a single attraction went. "Random Harvest," produced by Sidney A. Franklin and directed by Mervyn Le Roy, with Greer Garson and Ronald Colman its stars, ran for 11 weeks beginning Dec. 17, 1942. Runner-up in this division similarly went to M-G-M for "Mrs. Miniver" which opened on June 4, 1942, and remained at the Hall for 10 weeks. Miss Garson also starred with Walter Pidgeon. Franklin also produced and William Wyler directed. Thus, the Hall's two long-run records accrued to M-G-M in the same calendar year.

Columbia's longest run film was "The Jolson Story" which opened Oct. 10, 1946 and remained eight weeks. RKO Radio's best was "The Bells of St. Mary's" which began its nine-week run on Dec. 6, 1945. For 20th Century-Fox it was "Anna and the King of Siam" which played eight weeks from June 20, 1946. United Artists' best was "Rebecca", six weeks beginning March 28, 1940. Paramount's leader was "Reap the Wild Wind," a five-week attraction beginning March 26, 1942. Universal's top was "Great Expectations," a surprise five-week run beginning May 22, 1947. "All This and Heaven, Too," the Warner entry, ran four weeks beginning July 4, 1940.

To Cary Grant went the honors among stars, male and female. He played the Hall a total of 68 weeks in 21 different attractions. To Katharine Hepburn went the honor among female stars; she has played the Hall 60 weeks in 21 attractions. Others in this grouping are: Ginger Rogers, 56 weeks and 23 films; Greer Garson, 55 weeks but in only eight attractions; Irene Dunne, 44 weeks in 19 films; Walter Pidgeon, 35 and five.

Among the producers the accolade went to Pandro S. Berman. His productions—40 of them—filled 79 weeks of the Hall's screen time. Franklin was in second place, numerically, with 40 weeks accruing, however, in only five attractions which was a record no other producer approached. Others in the top producer group were David O. Selznick, 30 weeks and 13 films; Samuel Goldwyn, 25 and 11; George Stevens, 18 and five; Joseph L. Mankiewicz, 17 and four; Leo McCarey, 16 and four; Victor Saville, 15 and four.

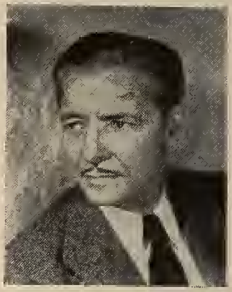
John Cromwell filled first niche among the directors whose films have graced the theatre. His attractions bulked 36 weeks divided among 17 films. Stevens, who directs as well as produces, placed second among directors with 30 weeks and nine films. Others: Charles Vidor, 24 and six; Mervyn Le Roy, 23 and five; Clarence Brown, 22 and four; Tay Garnett, Alfred Hitchcock and William Wyler, tied at 20 weeks each with six attractions for Garnett, five for Hitchcock and seven for Wyler; Alexander Hall, 18 and 10; John Ford (10 attractions) and Robert Z. Leonard (three) tied at 14 weeks each.

Leader for 1947 was "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." Opening July 24, 1947, it ran seven weeks. Dore Schary produced. Irving Reis directed, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple co-starred with Cary Grant.

Sidney A. Franklin

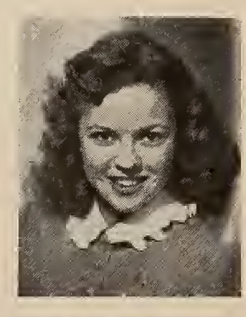
Mervyn LeRoy

Greer Garson


Ronald Colman

Dore Schary

Irving Reis


Shirley Temple

Myrna Loy

Irene Dunne

...as the
wonderful mama
of the most lovable
family ever to win
your heart!

Originally in
READER'S DIGEST

Then a wonderful
Best-selling **NOVEL**

Then 2 years on the
NEW YORK STAGE . . .

Millions remember "Mama" as the beloved heroine of the nation-wide stage hit that cheered millions of hearts! Now, Mama's on the screen—with her heart-warming family—in the same delightful story—twice as wonderful and memorable as ever!

Coming to RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

DORE SCHARY *presents*

IRENE DUNNE

in **GEORGE STEVENS'** *production of*

"I REMEMBER MAMA"

co-starring

BARBARA BEL GEDDES

OSCAR HOMOLKA · PHILIP DORN

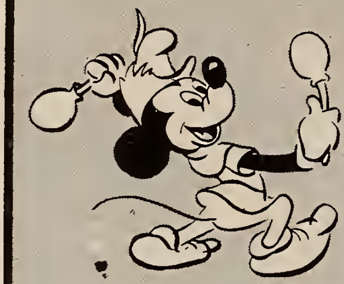
with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE · EDGAR BERGEN · RUDY VALLEE · BARBARA O'NEIL

Executive producer and director GEORGE STEVENS • Produced by HARRIET PARSONS

Screen play by DeWITT BODEEN • Based upon the play by JOHN VAN DRUTEN

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Since the opening curtain at Radio City Music Hall . . .



© W. D. P.

Walt Disney's

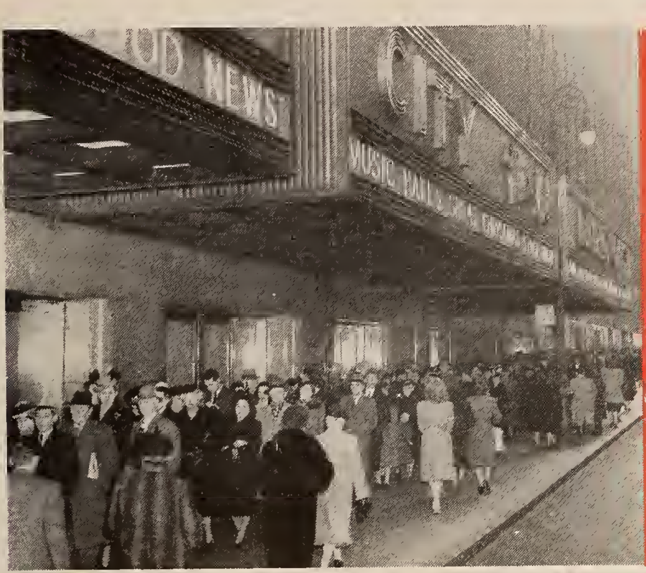
TECHNICOLOR

SHORT SUBJECTS

. . . have been a constant feature at the world's largest theatre!

Re-released by
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

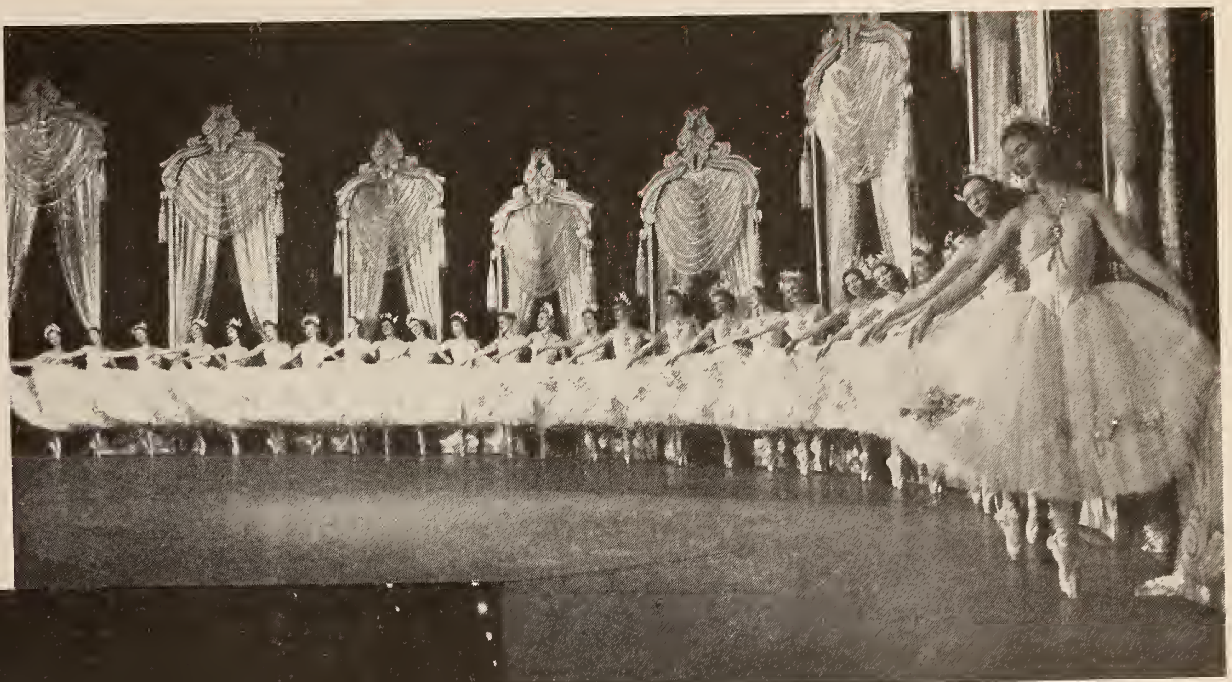
America Goes to the Music Hall

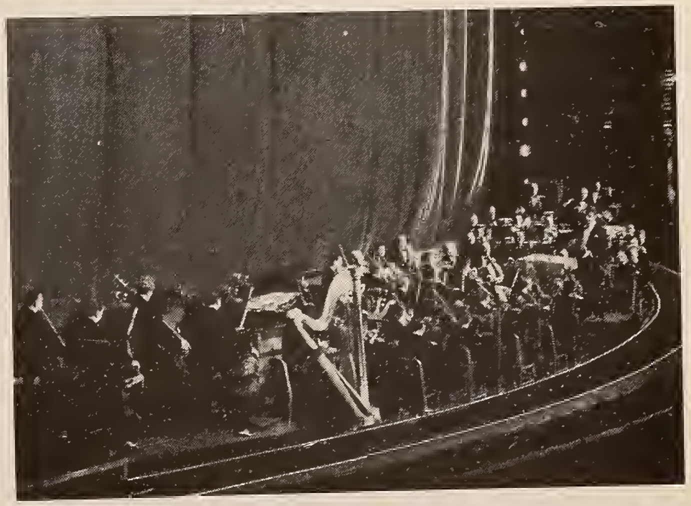


THE customer reigns at Radio City Music Hall. Its doors admit (frequently only after long waiting, as at left) more than 160,000 weekly. They include all age groups, all income groups, probably all nationalities and creeds. Many are not New Yorkers. They come from all over the United States, from many foreign countries. For the average New York visitor, the Music Hall is a must-see attraction.

On this and the following pages attention is directed to what it takes to keep the Music Hall's 6,200 seats occupied, day by day. Its screen attractions are carefully chosen to span the widest range in customer tastes. In its famed Rockettes, Ballet, Symphony Orchestra, Glee Clubs, in its physical appurtenances and atmosphere of quiet luxury and comfort, the Hall offers that extra something that brings them in and brings them back.

The Corps de Ballet (right), directed by Florence Rogge. It is the only resident ballet in the United States; numbers 36 girls, 9 men, with director, assistant, captain and accompanist. Below: The Rockettes, precision trained eye-trappers; 46 girls, having 2 directors, captain and an accompanist, under the supervision of Russell Markert and Gene Snyder.





World's largest permanent theatre orchestra (75 members). Alexander Smallens conducts the Music Hall Symphony.

Every Music Hall show has its beginning at a round-table luncheon meeting in the theatre's studio apartment. Gus Eyssell, managing director (facing camera across table), discusses plans with, clockwise, Florence Rogge, Ballet director; Russell Downing, comptroller; Fred Cruise, theatre manager; Fred Lynch, advertising-publicity director; Irving Evans, stage manager; Alexander Smallens, music director; Leon Leonidoff, senior producer; Eugene Braun, stage lighting director; Bruno Maine, art director; Jack Dailey, administrative assistant; Russell Markert, Rockettes director; Gene Snyder, co-director; Hattie Rogge, costume director.

Stage settings and effects, decided upon at round-table session, come into being. Here, Bruno Maine (right), art director, and Leon Leonidoff, senior producer, blue-print new sets, work from miniatures built for a scale model of the huge Music Hall stage.

Planning meeting concluded, the production wheels begin to turn. Above, the costume department, directed by Hattie Rogge, left center, becomes a hive of activity as 40 seamstresses, additional handsewers as needed, measure, make and fit as many as 300 new costumes for a new production. Each costume is fitted individually. Right, Russell Markert shows the Rockettes the new steps preliminary to rehearsals.

Congratulations

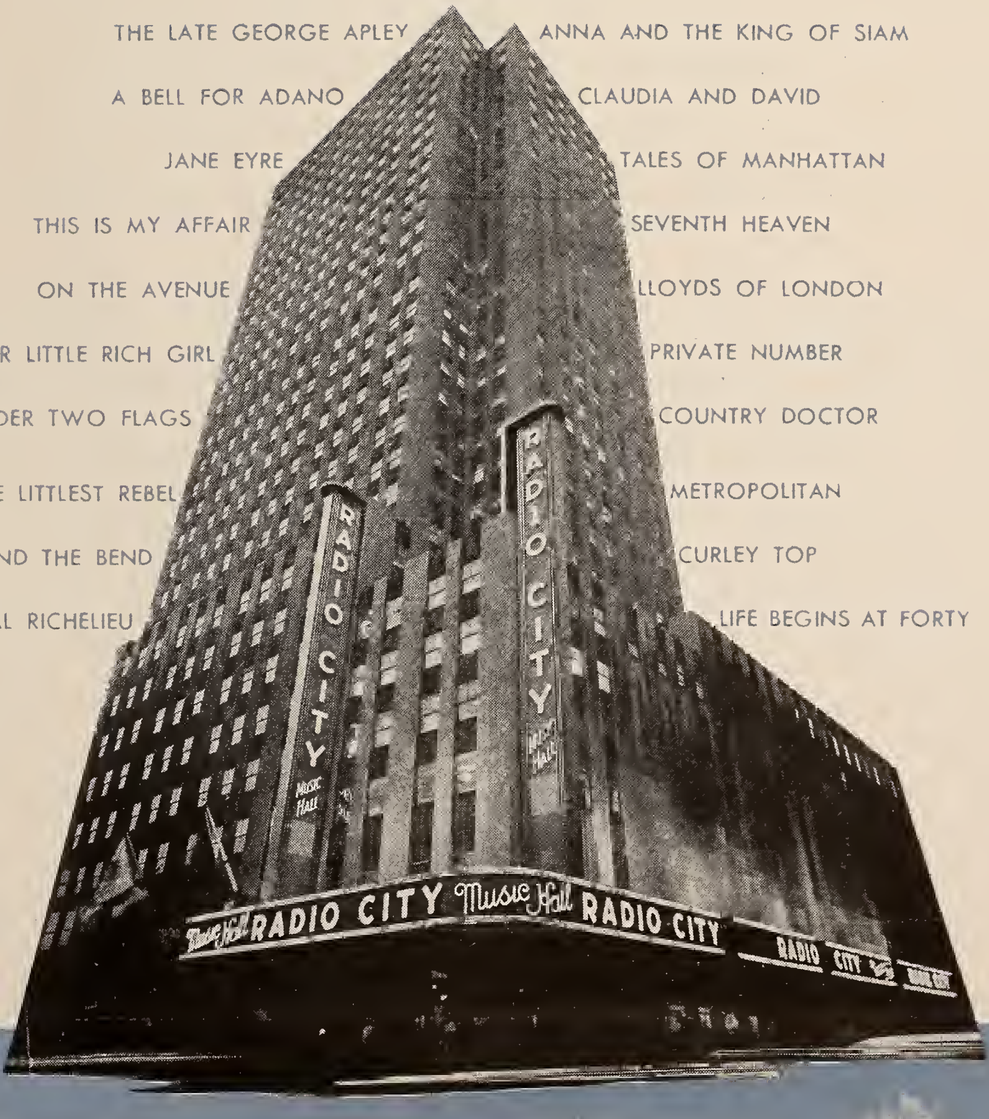
on your 15th

from 20th Century-Fox

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY
A BELL FOR ADANO
JANE EYRE
THIS IS MY AFFAIR
ON THE AVENUE
POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL
UNDER TWO FLAGS
THE LITTLEST REBEL
STEAMBOAT ROUND THE BEND
CARDINAL RICHELIEU

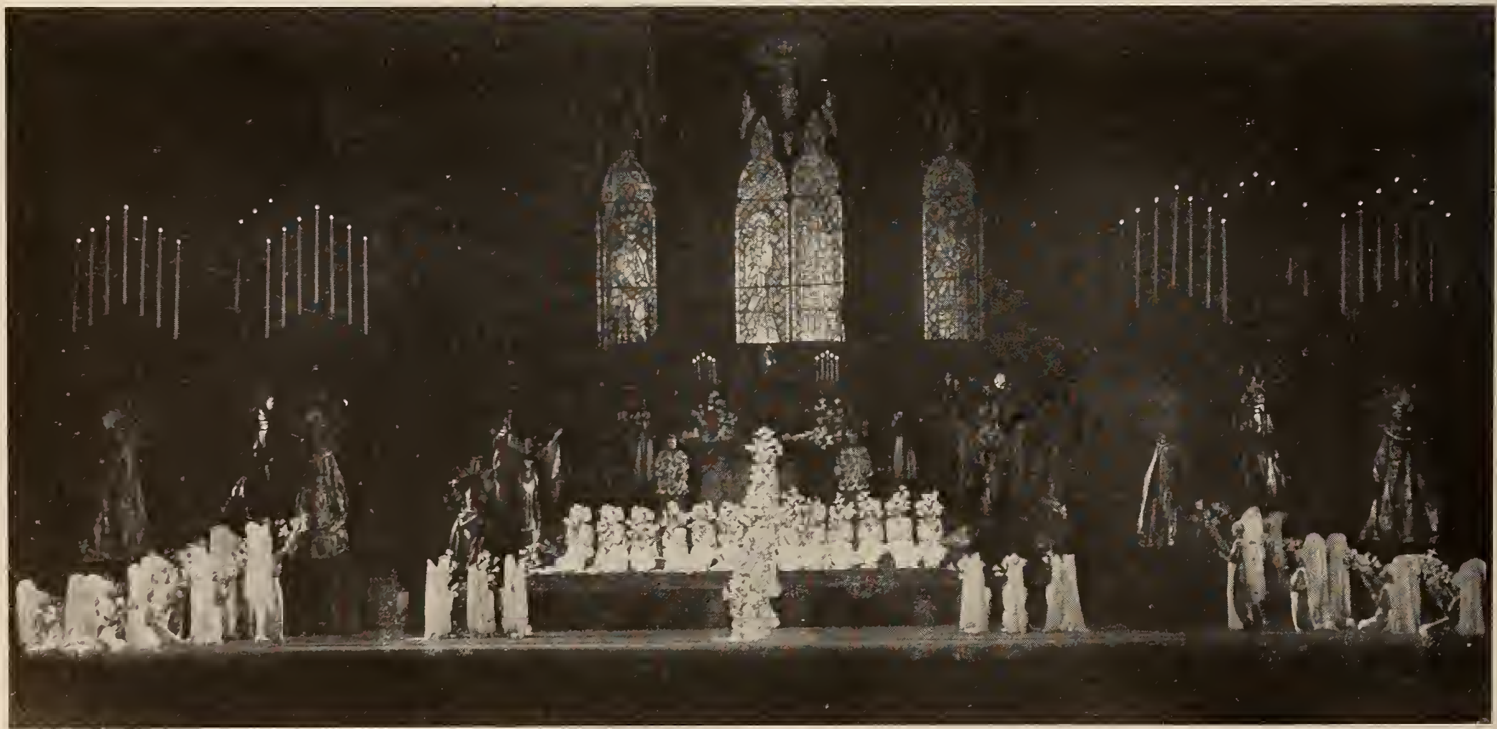
ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM
CLAUDIA AND DAVID
TALES OF MANHATTAN
SEVENTH HEAVEN
LLOYDS OF LONDON
PRIVATE NUMBER
COUNTRY DOCTOR
METROPOLITAN
CURLEY TOP
LIFE BEGINS AT FORTY



AMERICA GOES to the MUSIC HALL continued

Above, the Corps de Ballet in rehearsal room is introduced to new choreography for another stage production. Florence Rogge (standing, center) directs and designs choreography. Below, the annual pageant, "Glory of Easter", on the Music Hall stage. The Easter and Christmas productions alone are repeated each year. Employing companies of 250 persons, they have become institutional spectacles of the theatre. Approximately 12 separate productions are staged at the Music Hall every year.

Above, Irving Evans, stage manager, directs the most modern and complex stage equipment in the world, of which hydraulic elevators, moving bandwagon, giant turntable, contour curtain are but a part. In the background, the electrically operated control board. Left: the Music Hall Glee Club, male chorus of 25, rehearses with Kay Holley, associate director, at the piano.



EYES ON EYSSELL!

One of America's great showmen has demonstrated his showmanship during 1947 by devoting almost a half year of his playing time to M-G-M pictures.

NEWEST MUSIC HALL HITS COMING YOUR WAY FROM M-G-M:

M-G-M presents the Great Romance!

SPENCER **TRACY** · LANA **TURNER**

ZACHARY **SCOTT**

Cass Timberlane

TOM DRAKE · MARY ASTOR · ALBERT DEKKER

Screen Play by Donald Ogden Stewart · Adaptation by Donald Ogden Stewart and Sonya Levien · Based on the Novel by Sinclair Lewis

Directed by GEORGE SIDNEY · Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.

M-G-M presents its Gay Technicolor Musical!

GOOD NEWS

JUNE **ALLYSON** · PETER **LAWFORD**

PATRICIA MARSHALL · JOAN McCRACKEN

RAY McDONALD · MEL TORME

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

Screen Play by Betty Comden and Adolph Green · Based on the Musical Comedy by Lawrence Schwab, Lew Brown, Frank Mandel, B. G. DeSylva, and Ray Henderson

Directed by CHARLES WALTERS · Produced by ARTHUR FREED

Congratulations to Radio City Music Hall on its 15th Anniversary and to its guiding Chief, Gus Eyssell, with sincere appreciation from M-G-M for the privilege of serving you through the years.

AMERICA GOES to the MUSIC HALL

continued

In summer the Rockettes take to the Music Hall recreation roof for rehearsal. At right, they are shown with Gene Snyder, co-director, and Emilia Sherman, captain. Recreation roof provides handball and tennis courts and deck chairs.

It's a Music Hall custom for performers and production staff to discuss the new show immediately after the first performance, to suggest improvements, deletions. Above, Gus Eyssell congratulates them.

The music Hall has its own backstage cafeteria, popular as a meeting and relaxation spot between stage shows, as well as at meal times.

Nice work if you can get it. Music Hall provides a 20-bed dormitory where girls of dancing troupes may rest between shows. Services of a house medical staff also are available at all times.

The Music Hall's dressing rooms are spacious, well-equipped. Above: Ballerinas ready themselves for their turn on the world's largest stage, after a rest.

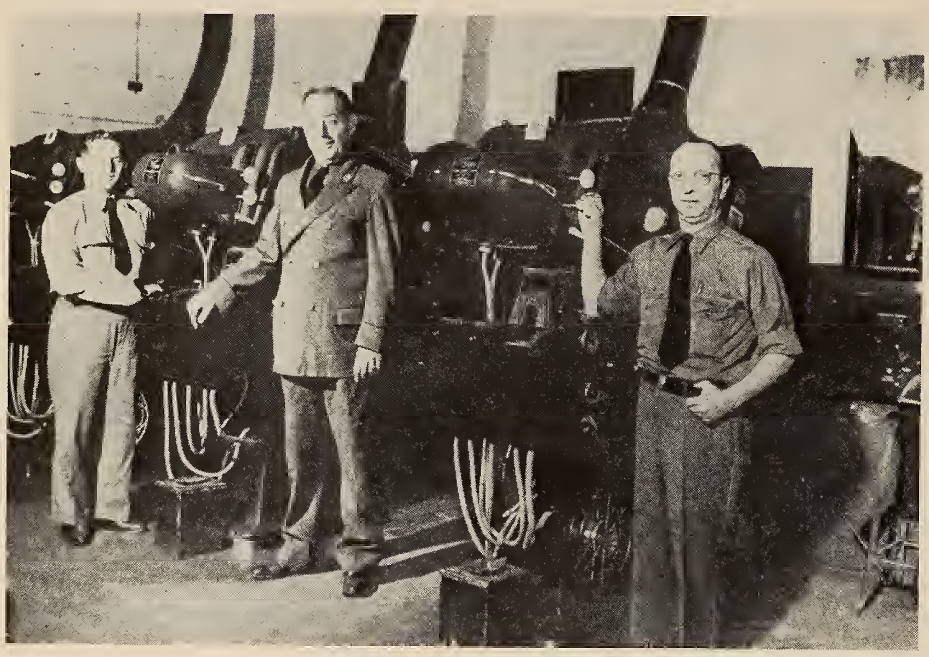
Universal-International extends its sincerest congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Gus S. Eyssell and the Radio City Music Hall for the fine service they have rendered to the industry and to the public these many years, and hopes that they will continue to do so for many years to come.

Universal International

AMERICA GOES TO THE MUSIC HALL

concluded

Film buying, production, administration—the business of show business. Above, Gus Eyssell, Music Hall president and managing director, shown at his desk in the theatre's spacious executive quarters, with Ruth Rich, his secretary.



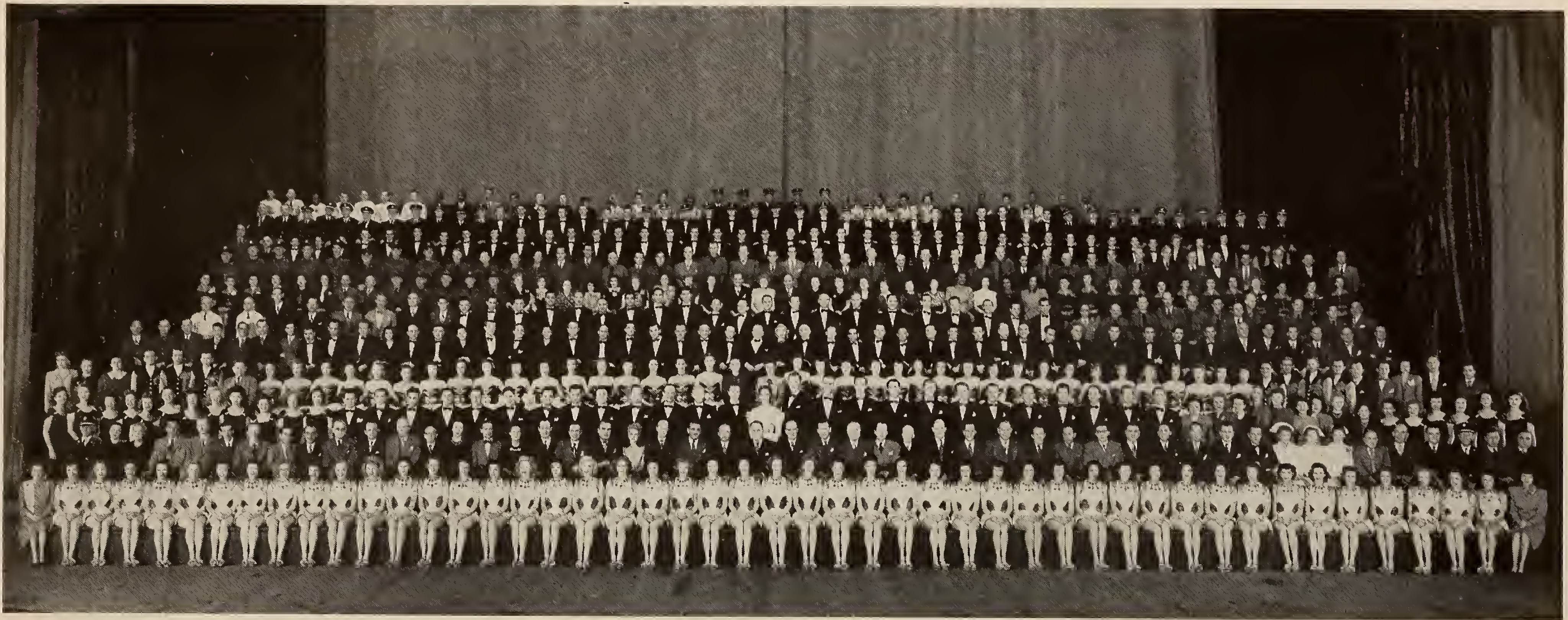
Projection department (above). Charles Muller, center, supervises 14 booth men. Images are projected a distance of 190 feet to screen, 70 x 40 feet.

Service staff includes 150 ushers, doormen, page boys under supervision of Fred Cruise, theatre manager. Ushers (above) completed two-week training course.

Music Hall foyer at show "break," below. For them were performed the functions, the talents exhibited, which are depicted in this section. The Music Hall has combined for them all the fine arts of the theatre.

Columbia Pictures is proud of its association with the Radio City Music Hall during the fifteen years of this great institution's history, and proud, too, of the fifty-nine Columbia pictures which have played so happy a role in the Music Hall's success

PERMANENT STAFF OF RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL



(Cosmo-Sileo Photo by Drucker-Hilbert)

The world's largest theatre has a permanent staff of 622 people. Its complete personnel, pictured above, on the great stage of the Music Hall, sat for this new portrait several days ago to mark this famous institution's Fifteenth Anniversary. Managing Director G. S. Eyssell, second row center, is flanked by production and administrative executives. Grouped elsewhere in the photo are the theatre's various stage talent and orchestra members, publicity and accounting departments, secretaries, music librarians, projectionists, service staffs, stage employes, box office staff, electricans, maintenance men and others.

FACTS ABOUT THE MUSIC HALL

Seats 6,200 people. Averages four complete shows, five feature film showings daily; increases on holidays to five complete shows, six and occasionally seven feature showings. Regular price scale, 80 cents to $1.25, tax included. Mezzanine has 950 reserved seats priced at $1.80 to $2.40, tax included.

•

Operates from 10:00 A.M. to 11:40 P.M. daily; midnight show Saturdays. Doors open as early as 7:15 A.M. on major holidays. Average show runs three hours. Current grosses run upwards of $130,000 weekly.

•

Its total permanent staff, 622 persons, is equivalent to one employe for every 10 seats in the theatre. It has a service staff of 141 persons; 59 maintenance workers; 53 stage department employes; production staff of 46; 21 box office employes; accounting department, 9; executive staff assistants, 8; advertising-publicity, 7; poster department, 2; organists, 3; projectionists, 14.

•

The theatre has 6 telephone operators; hospital attendants, chef, waitresses, cafeteria employes; music library with arrangers and copyists, hydraulic elevator operators, public address sound men. Stage troupes and orchestra have directors, assistants, captains, accompanist.

•

There are 75 members of the Music Hall Symphony Orchestra, which is directed by Alexander Smallens. Serving the orchestra are two assistant conductors, a manager and assistant manager, a sound technician, the theatre's music library staff of seven.

•

The Rockettes comprise the second largest numerical group within the Music Hall stage organization. There are 46 Rockettes with two directors, captain and accompanist. The Corps de Ballet is only minutely smaller, consisting of 36 girls, nine men, a director, assistant director, captain and accompanist.

•

The Male Glee Club, a popular Music Hall stage feature, has 25 members, a director and captain. In addition, the Music Hall has a Woman's Choral Group of 19 members.

•

The film buying and booking is attended to personally by G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of the Music Hall. He never buys a picture without seeing it. Even those he is sure of, he usually looks at several times before buying and dating them. Eyssell makes several trips to Hollywood annually to get a first-hand line on the forthcoming quality product. In recent years, with picture runs averaging four or five weeks each, the Music Hall has been averaging only 11 to 14 pictures a year.

SELZNICK
RELEASING
ORGANIZATION

IN A TRADITION OF QUALITY

THE SELZNICK RELEASING ORGANIZATION

Announces that

Radio City Music Hall

will play David O. Selznick's

production of Alfred Hitchcock's

THE PARADINE CASE

early in January.

A distinguished setting for a distinguished picture

THE PARADINE CASE

is the Selznick Releasing Organization's

first release for 1948. Among others will be PORTRAIT OF JENNIE,

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE,

and DUEL IN THE SUN (*now in release*).

Best Wishes

to Gus Eyssell

and his Entire Staff

on the

15th

Anniversary

of the

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Pandro S. Berman

whose pictures have played Radio City Music Hall more than any other producer in that distinguished theatre's history congratulates Mr. Gus S. Eyssell and the Music Hall management on their fifteenth anniversary.

CONGRATULATIONS, Gus S. Eyssell and your staff, on the fifteenth anniversary of your internationally known theatre. It is a real pleasure to have "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" hold the long run record at the Radio City Music Hall for 1947.

DORE SCHARY

on your 15th Anniversary as *"showplace of the world!"*

When world-famous Radio City Music Hall opened its doors fifteen historic years ago, eager patrons entered into what has been justifiably described as the crowning achievement in theatre design and construction.

Every last detail of architecture, equipment, and furnishing had been selected only after painstakingly exhaustive research. The finest, and *only* the finest, was judged good enough for this sumptuous theatre.

That is why American Seating Company takes pride in the fact that it was chosen to design, build, and install the seating in Radio City Music Hall. Our friendly association with this great institution has been a source of unending satisfaction to us. We are sincerely looking forward to serving Radio City Music Hall for many more years.

To the service of the whole of the nation's great entertainment profession, American Seating Company dedicates all the designing and manufacturing skills and facilities developed through more than 60 years of producing fine theatre seating.

American Seating Company

GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN

WORLD'S LEADER IN PUBLIC SEATING

Manufacturers of Theatre, Auditorium, School, Church, Transportation, Stadium Seating and Folding Chairs • Branch Offices and Distributors in Principal Cities

Birthday Greetings

to

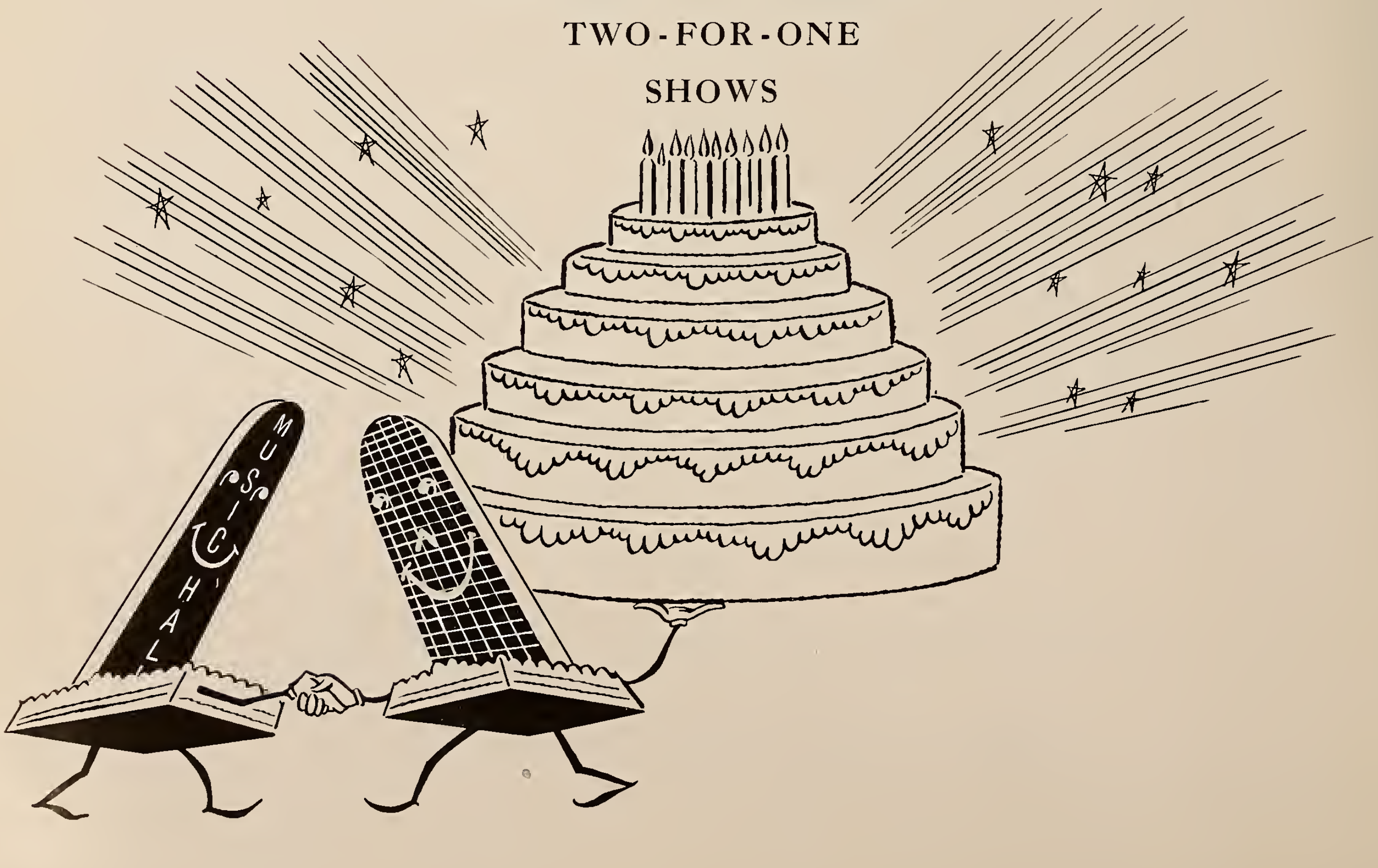
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

THE
SHOW PLACE
OF
THE NATION

from

THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

HOME OF
BROADWAY'S ORIGINAL
TWO-FOR-ONE
SHOWS



RCA THEATRE EQUIPMENT SALES

and

RCA SERVICE COMPANY, INC.

extend sincere congratulations to Gus Eyssell and staff on the 15th Anniversary of the opening of Radio City Music Hall.

Congratulations to

GUS EYSSELL

on

The 15th Anniversary

of the

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

SCHUMER THEATRICAL TRANSFER
429-31 West 53rd St., N. Y. C.
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HARRY SCHUMER HENRY SCHUMER
CHAS. LAZZARO

A Crystal Birthday!

Congratulations for having provided 5475 days of continuous entertainment.

And thanks for permitting us to take care of your costume and uniform needs.

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1150 AVE. of the AMERICAS, NEW YORK

Best Wishes . . .

RADIO CITY
MUSIC HALL

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PROJECTION

Originally Installed
Under the Supervision

of

JOE HORNSTEIN
630 Ninth Avenue, New York City

CONGRATULATIONS

TO

GUS EYSSELL

AND HIS STAFF

ON THE

15TH ANNIVERSARY

OF

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

•

COSMO-SILEO
ASSOCIATES

JIMMY SILEO—HENRY RAPISARDA—BEN MANCUSO

Official Photographers to R.C.M.H. Since 1933

Congratulations to Gus Eyssell and entire Staff of Radio City Music Hall on 15 years of distinctive achievement.

AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE SERVICES, Inc.
62 WEST 47th STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Heartiest Congratulations

to

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

on its Fifteenth Anniversary

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METROPOLITAN REFINING CO., INC.
50-23 Twenty-Third Street
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Representation in all principal cities

Since 1933 VAPORENE has been used in the air conditioning system of the Radio City Music Hall.

Our Sincere Congratulations

TO

GUS EYSSELL

AND HIS STAFF

ON THE

15th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Radio City Music Hall

•

GLADSTONE FABRICS

THEATRICAL—DISPLAY—NOVELTY FABRICS

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Congratulations...

FOR FIFTEEN YEARS OF OUTSTANDING ENTERTAINMENT

La Mendola

167 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

official ballet-makers for

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Congratulations!

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

On Your

FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

NATIONAL TICKET CO.

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Reserved Seat Ticket

Printers for Radio City Music Hall

Best Wishes

to

Gus Eyssell

and the entire Staff

of the

Radio City Music Hall

on its

Fifteenth Anniversary

W. F. IRISH CO., Inc.

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Reiner to Australia In SRO Sales Post

Manny Reiner, in charge of Latin and South American sales for Selznick Releasing Organization, will leave later this week for Sydney, Australia, on special assignment, where he will maintain headquarters to establish SRO sales organizations in Australia and New Zealand, Neil Agnew, SRO president, has announced.

Reiner will be gone about two months and will then return to his office in Mexico City.

Theatre Guild Fete

The Theatre Guild will hold a reception Sunday afternoon at its offices here in honor of the 100th production of its radio show, "The Theatre Guild on the Air." The air show tied for first place as "Best Dramatic Program" in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S 12th annual poll for *Fame*.

Ashcraft Plant Burns

Fire yesterday damaged a building in Long Island City occupied by the C. S. Ashcraft Manufacturing Co., which assembles motion picture equipment. Three alarms were sounded.

Kentucky Theatre Fire

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 29.—A city fireman was overcome by smoke while combating a blaze that damaged the Ben Ali Theatre.

Legion Rates 'Turtle' A-II

The National Legion of Decency has classified "The Voice of the Turtle" in Class A-II, for adults.

Review

"The Paradine Case"

(Selznick Releasing Organization)

FIRST-CLASS all the way, "The Paradine Case" is shot through with the know-how of showmanship intelligently and cunningly contrived. It has:

1—An engrossing story that cleverly interweaves the elements of a murder mystery and the usual romantic triangle angled from an unusual pitch.

2—The well-rounded and dramatically sound direction normally expected from Alfred Hitchcock.

3—A gilt-edged cast headed by Gregory Peck, Ann Todd, Charles Laughton, Charles Coburn, Ethel Barrymore, Leo G. Carroll, Joan Tetzel plus two new personalities from the Selznick star cluster. They are Valli, actress from Italy and dark and beautiful, and Louis Jourdan, actor from France and dark and handsome. One of the important pieces of news about this attraction is the Hollywood advent of Valli as a dramatic star of unquestioned potentialities and the rife probability that Jourdan ultimately will loom importantly among Hollywood's leading men.

Based on a novel by Robert Hichens and moved up the calendar to London in 1946, "The Paradine Case" is the interesting story of a woman (Valli) arrested for murder of her blind husband and how a brilliant young lawyer (Peck) defends her and falls in love at the same time. Third angle is the wife (Miss Todd) who wants Peck to win the case which means freeing the suspect so that the race for his affections may be placed on an even keel.

As it so happens, Valli actually did poison her husband in order to skip with Jourdan. But the ashamed Jourdan, former comrade-in-arms of the dead husband and latterly his valet, commits suicide as the story of infidelity to his master unravels in court. On word of his death, Valli confesses the crime to Peck's disillusionment and eventual reunion with Miss Todd.

Highlighting the story in straightaway fashion, however, cannot begin to convey the suspense, the suggestions of cross motives and false suspicions with which the picture is replete. "The Paradine Case," we suppose, must be classified as a murder mystery. It is that, but it is more. It is a study—and extremely interesting, too—of actions and reactions of a set of intelligent and alert adults to circumstances and conditions crossing their lives. Alma Reville's adaptation in consultation with James Bridie and the screenplay by David O. Selznick who produced are smooth and polished. That goes for Hitchcock's direction and his ability in drawing performances of such a uniformly high level from his cast.

"The Paradine Case" opens at Radio City Music Hall January 8, and there it should have a long and successful run even at its excessive length.

Running time 132 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

RED KANN

Exhibitor Ansell To Make 4 for Classics

"Women in the Night," which will open at the Gotham Theatre, here, following the current run of "The Fabulous Texan," is the first Louis K. Ansell production of four to released through Film Classics.

Ansell is a St. Louis exhibitor.

Our Congratulations
to
Radio City Music Hall
on its Fifteenth Anniversary
users of
DIXIE and VORTEX CUPS

NATIONAL CONSUMERS PAPER CO.
227 Avenue of the Americas, New York City
A Franchised Distributor

First-run Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

Broadway and throughout the city missed being disastrous largely because the subway system continued to function after surface transportation came to a virtual standstill. Anyone within reach of a subway who wished to, could get to the Times Square area.

Midtown theatres also benefited from the presence in the area of thousands of stranded commuters who, unable to get to their suburban homes when surface transportation and railroads stopped running on Friday, jammed hotels throughout the area. With time on their hands, many of them went to theatres Friday night and Saturday.

Neighborhood houses were hit badly on Friday, but began to recover Saturday. By nightfall Saturday and through Sunday, neighborhood business was back to normal for the most part, as streets and walks were cleared for foot traffic, although in many neighborhoods surface transportation was either impossible or extremely difficult even through yesterday.

Film Deliveries Handled

Many outlying theatres were handicapped by inability of employes to get to work on time or at all on Friday and Saturday. Others reported inconveniences from shortages of fuel supplies and lack of deliveries, although few film miss-outs were reported in the metropolitan area. Film truckers appeared able to deliver the prints by one means or another.

Heavy snow on roofs and marquees of many small theatres in the New York territory provided a hazard and a difficult removal task. The marquee of the St. Marks Theatre, Manhattan, collapsed Friday under the weight of snow, injuring two.

There were long customer lines on Friday and Saturday before three key first runs: the Paramount ("Where There's Life," plus Vic Damone on stage), Rivoli ("Captain from Castile"), and Radio City Music Hall ("Good News" and Christmas stage presentation). The Paramount looks for a relatively excellent $105,000 for a first week; a solid $70,000 is apparently in store for the Rivoli's first week, and the Music Hall, on the basis of $88,000 grossed despite the blizzard, anticipates a huge $153,000 for a fourth week. Managements of these and other New York key runs is to eye New Year's Eve and New Year's Day to bring bigger business.

Strand, Roxy 'Satisfactory'

Following a $20,000 Christmas weekend (10 per cent off), the first week of "My Wild Irish Rose," plus the Ink Spots on stage at the Strand, is expected to bring a satisfactory $45,000. "Daisy Kenyon," and Lanny Ross on stage at the Roxy, on the basis of a "snowed-down" $68,000 for the first four days, is viewed as bringing a satisfactory $140,000 for a first week. At the Capitol, "The High Wall" and Tommy Dorsey's band look for an $84,000 first week, taking into account a 10 per cent drop over the weekend due to the snow. A $5,000 weekend for "The Voice of the Turtle" at the Warner is expected to roll into $20,000 for a first week.

Among Broadway first-runs hardest hit by the storm was the Palace, where what "should have been a $25,000 wekend" brought only $13,000 for "Tycoon," with a paltry $22,000 anticipated for the first week. "The Bishop's Wife," in its third week at the Astor, was off about 25 per cent over the weekend, and a $55,000 week is anticipated. "The Fugitive" also was 25 per cent off over the weekend with the three days' $16,500 expected to mount to only about $30,000 for a first week.

'Exile' 20% Below Normal

Some $35,000 is looked for in the first week of "The Exile" at the Winter Garden, with the $22,000 grossed Thursday through Sunday termed 20 per cent below normal Christmastime expectations. "The Senator Was Indiscreet" at the Criterion was off at the weekend about 30 to 40 per cent, bringing in only $12,500; a so-so $32,000 is expected for the picture's first week—without counting too strongly on New Year's holidays.

"Gentleman's Agreement" in its seventh week at the Mayfair is expected to bring $40,000, having suffered a 20 per cent-below-expectations weekend with $14,500 taken in. "Body and Soul," in its eighth week at the Globe, is building to $30,000, an $8,500 weekend described as being 25 per cent under expectations. "Fabulous Texan," in a first week at the Gotham, is heading for a low $9,500. "I Know Where I'm Going," at the Sutton in its 19th week, grossed $4,200. "Nicholas Nickelby," Little Carnegie, in a fifth week, got $5,000.

1948 —

(*Continued from page* 1)

some of them wise ones, some of them futile, if not foolish. The disappearing foreign markets joined forces, apparently, with domestic factors causing a falling off in attendance at theatres at home; a falling off that is, from 1946 attendance levels which set new all-time high earnings records.

A mild form of panic spread through the upper executive strata of the industry, on which the weight of large inventories of films, produced at costs which also had set all-time highs, rested heavily.

Cuts were ordered and cuts were made. But they have not solved the problem and, in some instances, they have succeeded only in aggravating it.

The 'Fundamental' Task

The industry's fundamental task in 1948 will be what it endeavored to accomplish in 1947: the production of better films at costs commensurate with foreseeable income.

If Hollywood can do that, it is axiomatic that more people will be brought to the theatres of America, and that showmanship in the theatre, which is futile without the better product, can do the rest.

The industry's continuing vital need for increased domestic grosses, thus, is wholly dependent upon a constant flow of improved product, made at reasonable but lower costs than formerly.

If Hollywood can deliver, the industry's most urgent problem will have been solved. If it fails to deliver quality product at lower costs, the industry's economy will continue to be as much out of gear as Europe's and none of the economies, either required or foolish, which the industry adopts elsewhere, will be of any avail.

By all reasonable standards of comparison with so-called "normal" years, company earnings for 1947 will range anywhere from "fair" to "excellent." Naturally, such earnings will be less than the all-time record highs of 1946. In some instances they will be less than the very substantial earnings of the war years. There should be nothing in them to justify either scare-thinking or panic-action.

1948 can be the industry's year of opportunity—as well as its year of responsibility.

Anti-Trust Decision in '48

The decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Federal anti-trust suit against major companies, which presumably could be forthcoming either next June or in the Fall, should have no particular influence on 1948 operations. The possible effects of the trade practice phases of the lower court's decree have, for the most part, been discounted by trial and study and, if they are upheld by the Supreme Court, the required changes will not catch the industry by surprise.

Reasonable time in which to effect adjustments in theatre ownership is to be expected, whether the Supreme Court affirms that part of the New York decree or orders affiliated theatre divorcement. Therefore, effects on operations in 1948 of any high court order with respect to theatre ownership are not expected to be discernible.

The Federal anti-trust suit loomed large in the industry news headlines of 1947. The New York expediting court handed down its decree in the last hours of the last day of 1946, and industry members came back to work on the day after New Year's, 1947, to read the story.

Appeal Hearing in Feb.

The decree was followed by petitions for a stay of its effective provisions, filed by defendants and granted by the Supreme Court. Thereafter, appeals from the New York decree were sought and permitted. The appeals were set down for argument before the high court during the week of Jan. 15, 1948, but a postponement was granted the Government and the hearing now is scheduled for the week of Feb. 9.

In compliance with the New York decree, 1947 saw the ending of theatre pools and considerable experimentation around the country with the competitive bidding provisions of the same decree.

During the year, the Supreme Court by its refusal to review Chicago's Jackson Park Theatre decree, cleared the way for an upheaval in the booking and dating of pictures in that city's Loop and South Side theatres. Loop runs were arbitrarily limited to two weeks and numerous other changes were made, so complex in nature that exact procedures have not been established yet and may not be for months to come and then only through court rulings.

Schine, Griffith Decisions Due

Supreme Court appeals in Federal anti-trust suits against Schine Chain Theatres, Gloversville, N. Y., and Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City, were argued as 1947 neared its ending. The two suits, like the New York industry case, have been in the courts for more than eight years. Supreme Court decisions in the Schine and Griffith cases may be handed down before the high court adjourns next June.

The year 1947 saw the completion of organization on a national basis of the Motion Picture Foundation with E. V. Richards of New Orleans elected its first president. Designed to care for members of the industry in need, its support by all branches of the industry is expected to be advanced substantially during 1948. The Foundation is believed to be the first organization of its kind established by an industry the size of this.

The investigations of and Washington hearings on alleged subversive influences in the industry by the House Committee on Un-American Activities captured numerous headlines in the American and world press and might have had significantly adverse effects but for the fact that the leaders of the industry, through the Association of Motion Picture Producers, took counter-action promptly. Ten persons identified with Hollywood and charged with contempt of Congress for refusal to tell the Committee whether or not they were Communists were disavowed by the industry and those in its employ were discharged.

AMPP Bars 'Subversives'

In addition, members of the AMPP subscribed to a policy of refusing employment in the future to known "subversives."

The House Committee has declared its intention of continuing its Hollywood "investigation" in 1948.

The organized industry, through the Motion Picture Association, also moved during the year now ending to attempt to ward off attacks upon the industry, its product and its advertising by revising the Production Code to further restrict the use in motion pictures and their titles of criminal and salacious subjects. The industry Advertising Code and Title Registration rules were revised similarly and the organization of a permanent public relations group was completed.

The three-year-old jurisdictional dispute that has kept studio unions in spasmodic turmoil defied settlement during 1947 despite the attentions of the American Federation of labor hierarchy and the chairman of a House Labor subcommittee. Representative Carroll Kearns, the chairman of the subcommittee, has indicated his intention of holding public hearings in Washington early in the New Year to inquire into any possible responsibility of industry executives for the longevity of the Hollywood dispute.

Formation of TOA

The exhibition front was active throughout 1947. In its organizational aspect, top headlines of the year went to the merger of the historic Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America with the post-war baby, American Theatres Association, to form the new Theatre Owners of America, probably the largest as well as the richest exhibitor organization the industry ever has known.

Including in its membership both independent and affiliated theatres, although three (Loew's, RKO and Warners) of the five national affiliated circuits did not join TOA, it is headed by Ted R. Gamble and Fred Wehrenberg, first president and board chairman, respectively.

The year also witnessed the expansion into Louisiana-Mississippi, West Virginia, Missouri-Kansas and Colorado of Allied States Association of M. P. Exhibitors, and the return to its fold of several organizations temporarily withdrawn from it earlier.

1947 developments of commanding concern to exhibition included, in order of their importance, the move for increased theatre music licensing fees by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers; the seeming tidal wave of pictures to be released at advanced admission prices which, happily, proved to be little more than the backwash of a moderate size pleasure craft; auction bidding experiments; the use of local checkers by Confidential Reports, Inc.; print shortages and, believe it or not, layoffs of film salesmen in one of the several incomprehensible economy moves of the companies.

ASCAP Problem Continues

The ASCAP problem carries over into 1948, with new rates now scheduled to become effective by Feb. 1. The rates now are being drawn up by ASCAP after meetings with TOA and, if accepted by a representative number of exhibitors, will be made applicable to all—even those now planning or engaged in litigation and legislative campaigns against the Society.

Corporate changes were few during the year, having been limited for the most part to the acquisition of independent producing organizations by major companies, such as Paramount's purchase of Liberty Films and Rainbow Prod.

Warner Bros. purchased Pathe News from RKO and renamed it Warner Pathe News.

Cagney Prod. announced its intention of going over to Warners but United Artists claimed contractual commitments with Cagney and indicated it would go to court for the final word.

Connors Resigns 20th-Fox Post

In the executive sphere, Tom J. Connors resigned as vice-president in charge of sales for 20th Century-Fox, continuing in an advisory capacity, and was succeeded by A. W. Smith, Jr.; Joseph C. Bernhard resigned as a vice-president of Warners to become head of Film Classics, which he promptly began expanding. Edward C. Raftery resigned as president of United Artists, to be succeeded by Gradwell L. Sears. Arthur W. Kelly was elected executive vice-president of U.A.

Donald Nelson handed in his resignation, effective Jan. 31, as president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Indications are that the organization will not name another public figure as Nelson's successor but will, instead, carry on with its present personnel. Pat Casey resigned as labor negotiator for Hollywood producers but continues in an advisory capacity. Curtis Mitchell resigned as advertising-publicity director of Paramount, effective next month, and no successor has been named.

'Minor Advances' by British

British pictures made minor advances in the American market in 1947, less than was expected of them early in the year. This was in spite of an extended visit to these shores by J. Arthur Rank during the year, on which occasion numerous large circuit operators expressed both formally and informally their intention of giving British pictures a real trial.

However, one of them, Rank's "Great Expectations," did impress the Broadway bunch with, first, a Radio City Music Hall booking, and, secondly, a run therein of five strong weeks.

The year 1947 was important, interesting and profitable to the industry.

May 1948 be all of that, in greater measure, and may it be more than that, too, in achievement, enjoyment and reward for each and every member of it!

Helfont Promoted

(*Continued from page* 1)

the activities formerly handled by Joel Bezahler, recently appointed assistant to Rodgers. Bezahler, previous to his new appointment, had been home office assistant to Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern sales manager with headquarters in Chicago. Helfont's new post embraces these activities as well as his others.

Accompanied by Jay Eisenberg and Ben Melniker, of the company's legal department, Bezahler arrived yesterday in Chicago to spend a few days there conferring with Bishop and his associates.

A Happy New Year
to All Our Friends
J. S. BERKSON
SCREENCRAFT PICTURES

IF YOUR SPECIAL SHOW
NEEDS "PUNCH" SELLING
Try Filmack's
SPECIAL
TRAILERS
ALWAYS TOPS FOR RESULTS!
1327 SO. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5

Scully Sets Sales Drive for Universal

Universal-International has launched a "Constellation Sales Drive," William A. Scully, distribution vice-president, announced here yesterday.

The new drive, according to Scully, will conclude on May 1, with prizes to be distributed among the company's district managers, branch managers, salesmen and bookers who turn in the best performances. The drive will also mark Scully's 10th Anniversary with Universal.

All departments of the U-I organization are being integrated in the drive, including the publicity, advertising and promotion units and U-I's studio facilities. Both charges and sales are to be calculated in the computation of standings.

Among pictures figuring in the drive will be "The Senator Was Indiscreet," "A Double Life," "A Woman's Vengeance," "The Naked City," "Secret Beyond the Door," "Black Bart," "Casbah," "Another Part of the Forest," "Letter from an Unknown Woman" and "Up in Central Park."

Details of the drive were set at a series of home office meetings of the sales cabinet and advertising, publicity and promotion representatives. Attending were E. T. Gomersall, A. J. O'Keefe, F. J. A. McCarthy, Fred Meyers, C. J. Feldman, John J. O'Connor, E. L. McEvoy, James J. Jordan, and Maurice A. Bergman.

Daily INS Newsreel

(*Continued from page 1*)

cifically tailored for television. Operations will be coordinated to make possible full three-way coverage of world events, it was said, and to provide current pictorial news service for showing to the public. Newsreels will be produced by Telenews, in association with INS and INP.

Coverage will be planned so that daily newsreel scenes can be supplemented with later spot-news sound photos, transmitted over the transcontinental leased-wire facilities of INP. Special teletype circuits of INS will carry a daily flow of last-minute news bulletins for television.

First actual newsreel releases are to be available in February.

INS was the first press service to devise a special news tape for television, which was put into operation at DuMont's New York station, WABD, in 1946 as part of the test pattern.

The Telenews organization operates the largest chain of newsreel theatres in the United States, and also produces a weekly international newsreel for newsreel theatres.

Alexander Film Meeting

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Dec. 29.—Approximately 50 Alexander Film field officials and district managers are attending a three-day meeting, starting today, at the company's studios here.

Holiday Greetings and
Best Wishes
FROM
FAVORITE FILMS
630 - 9th Avenue, N. Y., N. Y.

MPEA May Quit

(*Continued from page 1*)

yens and marks which have accrued to it, but are frozen. This was stated here yesterday by Irving Maas, MPEA president, who disclosed that Major General William H. Draper, Jr., undersecretary of the Army in Washington, has been informed officially of MPEA's position.

U. S. Product Popular in Japan

Maas said that while he was in Japan recently he discussed the problem with General Douglas MacArthur and high-ranking Japanese government officials—including the Japanese premier—and although they expressed alarm over the possible withdrawal of U. S. films from that country, Maas said, there is little or no way in which they could influence Washington to make dollar conversions. The popularity of U. S. films in Japan, and the amount of business they are doing are phenomenal, Maas said, pointing out that out of 2,000 available houses, some 1,600 now play regularly the MPEA-sponsored newsreel, and 600 are being supplied regularly with MPEA features.

On the other hand, Maas said, U. S. films are not nearly as "popular" in Germany, since, he explained, U. S. Army officials as well as German industry figures are encouraging German production and exhibition of German films at the expense of U. S. product.

Scores Government's 'Adamancy'

In MPEA-serviced countries other than Japan and Germany, Maas said, the association has experienced little or no difficulty in securing dollar conversion. He deplored what he termed the U. S. Government's adamancy in refusing to un-block currencies in the two countries, and said MPEA may withdraw shortly if the Government does not act favorably in this connection.

Maas said he expects to resume negotiations soon with the Czech monopoly following the recent breakdown in talks in Prague which resulted when the Czechs insisted on a reciprocity arrangement which was outside the MPEA's power to grant.

In Romania, Maas disclosed, there are now about only five U. S. pictures being exhibited, whereas before the Un-American Activities Hearings in Washington recently some 100 were in circulation.

RKO Securities Sale

(*Continued from page 1*)

ganization plan. Under the plan, net cash proceeds of the sale will be available until Jan. 12, 1953 to the persons formerly entitled to receive common stock.

The corporation also announced that under the terms of its outstanding scrip for fractions of shares of common stock, the right of holders of scrip to receive their respective pro rata shares of certain net cash proceeds now held for them will expire on March 19.

The securities are held by thousands of individuals, and the corporation is unable to bring the circumstances directly to their attention in many cases because of superseded addresses of some holders and because scrip is registered to "bearer" and not to individual names. To protect their respective interests, holders are urged to forward securities of the predecessor corporation to Bankers Trust and fractional scrip to Chase National Bank of New York.

Wehrenberg Group Will Meet Jan. 15

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—A regional meeting of the MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois is set for Hannibal, Mo., Jan. 15, with president Fred Wehrenberg leading a St. Louis delegation to that city. This is the first of a series of regional meetings planned at the last MPTO session.

MPTOA Files

(*Continued from page 1*)

"will keep the industry entangled in litigation." It holds that the Government's objections to industry arbitration are "without merit" and contends that the court is "not without power to order arbitration, or its equivalent, as to those matters that are inherently arbitrable." It points out that without arbitration and in the absence of court-defined rules of what constitutes "reasonable arbitration," long and expensive litigation would be necessary to determine that alone.

MPTOA cites the cases of U. S. vs. Hartford-Empire Co. and U. S. vs. National Lead Co. as authority for its contention that the court has the power either to appoint a special master or retain sufficient jurisdiction to order arbitration or its equivalent under special circumstances.

In its decree, the New York Federal Court held it lacked the power to order arbitration, which was opposed by the Government, but urged voluntary retention of the industry arbitration system or its equivalent.

The MPTOA motion, on which the Supreme Court is expected to rule next month, is made on behalf of independent exhibitor members of the organization only. It states that the petitioners do not feel that affiliated theatre divorcement will "cure the evils complained of but, quite on the contrary, will create a new set of them."

It challenges the New York Federal Court's power to order competitive bidding as "the only method under which pictures may be licensed," contending that the method excludes "many usual and lawful methods of competition." The motion also argues that competitive bidding will increase film rentals and lead to increased admissions, benefiting the defendants and placing the burden on the public. MPTOA also contends that under competitive bidding the larger theatre operators could eliminate competition either by overbuying or overbidding.

Gaumont Net Profit Increased in 1946-47

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Report of Gaumont-British Corp. for the year ended March 31, 1947, including profits of the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres group for the 14 months ended that date, shows a net profit of £557,673 ($2,230,692) after depreciation, interest, income taxes, etc., but before a transfer of £190,000 ($760,000) to general reserve. In the preceding year net profit was £469,509 ($1,878,036).

UA-SOPEG Hearings

Hearings in the wage dispute between United Artists and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild will start here today before the American Arbitration Association. Hearings between Loew's and Sopeg will continue Friday.

N. Y. Critics Vote 'Agreement' Best

"Gentleman's Agreement" was voted the best film of 1947 yesterday by the New York Film Critics in a meeting here.

Elia Kazan was voted best director for his work on "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Boomerang."

Best acting awards went to William Powell and Deborah Kerr. Powell was cited for his work in "Life With Father" and "The Senator Was Indiscreet," and Miss Kerr won honors for "The Adventuress" and "Black Narcissus." "To Live in Peace" was cited as the best foreign film of the year.

Rural Film-Goers Select 'Yearling' Year's Best

The nation's rural filmgoers have selected "The Yearling" as the best picture of 1947, and for the second successive year Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman have been chosen favorite players, according to the fifth annual rural film poll conducted by *Country Gentleman.*

Claudette Colbert placed second, followed by June Allyson, Greer Garson and Jeanne Crain among the women players. Among the male stars, Gregory Peck moved into second place, followed by Cornel Wilde, Alan Ladd and Van Johnson. Among pictures, "The Jolson Story" came in second, followed by "Welcome Stranger," "The Egg and I," "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Farmer's Daughter."

Allied vs. Ascap

(*Continued from page 1*)

consent decree, including the per-piece basis of licensing.

Since that time, Allied has been amassing information on rates and other aspects of the per-piece system to shows its unworkability. Myers said that the information is now "coming in at a good rate" from Allied regional associations and individual members and that the organization should be all set to go back to the Department of Justice with a well-documented case "shortly after the first of the year."

Warner Motion Granted

Warner Brothers was granted a motion for a bill of particulars by New York Federal Court Judge Simon H. Rifkind yesterday in connection with a $250,000 breach of contract action instituted by Sam E. Morris, former Warner executive. The suit charges that Morris moved to California in 1945 pursuant to an agreement whereby he was to act in an advisory capacity at $300 per week, and that shortly thereafter he was discharged.

Wm. Henry York

OTTAWA, Dec. 29.—William Henry York of the Regent Theatre here died late last week after a lengthy illness. He was 54.

A Happy and Prosperous
New Year
to All Our Friends
C AND G FILM EFFECTS
Hugo A. Casolaro — Milton M. Gottlieb

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 9	TWO BLONDES AND A REDHEAD C—70 min. (919) HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS Franchot Tone C—91 min. (929) (Rev. 7/22/47)	THE FIGHTING VIGILANTES "Lash" LaRue O—61 min. (Rev. 11/17/47) T—MEN Dennis O'Keefe D				THE FABULOUS TEXAN William Elliott O—95 min. (624) (Rev. 10/7/47)		THE INVISIBLE WALL Don Castle D—73 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)			ESCAPE ME NEVER Errol Flynn Ida Lupino D—103 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)
Nov. 16	LONE WOLF IN LONDON Joan Mohr Nancy Saunders D—68 min. (917)	WHISPERING CITY Helmut Dantine D—89 min. (Rev. 11/18/47) BLOND SAVAGE Leif Ericson Gail Sherwood D—72 min. (Rev. 10/8/47)	(Nov. Releases) THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color) Esther Williams Jimmy Durante M.-C—106 min. (808) (Rev. 10/7/47)	(Allied Artists) THE GANGSTER D—83½ min. (Rev. 10/1/47) BOWERY BUCKAROOS C—65 min. (625) (Rev. 10/20/47)	WHERE THERE'S LIFE Bob Hope Signe Hasso C—75 min. (4704) (Rev. 10/6/47)	UNDER COLORADO SKIES (Color) Monte Hale O—65 min. (652) (Rev. 12/18/47)	(Block 1) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Reissue) THE MARK OF ZORRO Tyrone Power D—93 min. (Rev. 11/6/40)		(Nov. Releases) THE EXILE Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maria Montez D—95 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	
Nov. 23	LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL O THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D	SHADOW VALLEY Eddie Dean O—58 min. (Rev. 12/1/47)	GREEN DOLPHIN STREET Lana Turner Van Heflin D—141 min. (Rev. 10/16/47)			THE FLAME John Carroll Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Reissue) DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK Claudette Colbert D—103 min. (Rev. 11/6/39)	(Nov. Releases) (Tola) THE ROOSEVELT STORY Doc.—77 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	THE UPTURNED GLASS James Mason D—87 min. (Rev. 10/23/47)	
Nov. 30		MAN FROM TEXAS James Craig O		THE CHINESE RING Roland Winters D—68 min. (Rev. 12/18/47)	BIG TOWN AFTER DARK Philip Reed Hilary Brooke D—69 min. (4706) (Rev. 11/17/47)		UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)				
Dec. 7	IT HAD TO BE YOU Ginger Rogers Cornel Wilde C—98 min. (Rev. 10/20/47)	CHEYENNE TAKES OVER "Lash" La Rue O—58 min. (Rev. 12/16/47		JIGGS AND MAGGIE IN SOCIETY Joe Yule Renie Riano C		THE GAY RANCHERO (Color) Roy Rogers O	RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47) CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Nov. Release) THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (Color) Lon McCallister D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		(Reissue) ANTHONY ADVERSE Fredric March Olivia de Havilland D—138 min. (Rev. 5/11/36)
Dec. 14	DEVIL SHIP Richard Lane D BLONDIE'S ANNIVERSARY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C		(Dec. Releases) KILLER McCOY Mickey Rooney Brian Donlevy D—105 min. (Rev. 10/27/47)			BANDITS OF DARK CANYON Allan "Rocky" Lane O—59 min. (Rev. 12/15/47)	(Block 2) NIGHT SONG Dana Andrews D—102 min. (806) (Rev. 11/12/47)		(Bischoff) INTRIGUE George Raft June Havoc D—90 min. (Rev. 12/24/47)	(Dec. Release) PIRATES OF MONTEREY (Color) Maria Montez Rod Cameron D—77½ min. (Rev. 11/14/47)	(Reissue) JEZEBEL Bette Davis D—103 min. (Rev. 3/9/38)
Dec. 21	ROSE OF SANTA ROSA Patricia White O		GOOD NEWS (Color) June Allyson Peter Lawford D—95 min. (Rev. 12/4/47)		ROAD TO RIO Bing Crosby Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—100 min. (4707) (Rev. 11/11/47)		DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME D—62 min. (809) (Rev. 9/29/47)	(Dec. Releases) ROSES ARE RED Don Castle D—66 min (734) (Rev. 11/7/47)		THE LOST MOMENT Robert Cummings Susan Hayward D—89 min. (Rev 10/14/47)	MY WILD IRISH ROSE (Color) Dennis Morgan D—101 min. (Rev. 12/11/47)
Dec. 28		LINDA BE GOOD Elyse Knox Marie Wilson C—66 min. (Rev. 11/29/47)		SMART POLITICS June Preisser Freddie Stewart D		MAIN STREET KID Al Pearce C	SO WELL REMEMBERED John Mills Martha Scott D—114 min. (807) (Rev. 11/29/47)	DAISY KENYON Joan Crawford Dana Andrews Henry Fonda D—99 min. (731) (Rev. 11/25/47) (Reissue) TOBACCO ROAD Gene Tierney D—84 min. (744) (Rev. 2/21/41)		BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr D—100 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	
Jan. 4	(Jan. Releases) THE SWORDSMAN (Color) Larry Parks D—81 min. (Rev. 10/17/47) I LOVE TROUBLE Franchot Tone D—94 min.	T-MEN Dennis O'Keefe D—91 min. (Rev. 12/12/47)	(Jan. Releases) TENTH AVENUE ANGEL Margaret O'Brien George Murphy D	GUN TALK Johnny Mack Brown O ROCKY Roddy McDowall D			WILD HORSE MESA Tim Holt O—61 min. (808) (Rev. 11/17/47)	(Reissue) GRAPES OF WRATH Henry Fonda D—128 min. (745) (Rev. 11/25/40)			ALWAYS TOGETHER Robert Hutton C—78 min. (713) (Rev. 12/17/47)
Jan. 11	GLAMOUR GIRL Gene Krupa Orch. M MARY LOU Frankie Carle Orchestra M	HEADING FOR HEAVEN Stuart Erwin C—71 min. (Rev. 12/17/47)	CASS TIMBERLANE Spencer Tracy Lana Turner D—120 min. (Rev. 11/5/47)	(Allied Artists) SONG OF MY HEART Frank Sundstrom D	I WALK ALONE Burt Lancaster Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4708) (Rev. 12/16/47)	SLIPPY McGEE Donald Barry Dale Evans D—65 min. (702)	OUT OF THE PAST Robert Mitchum D-97 min. (Rev. 11/17/47)		(Jan. Releases) (Triangle) SLEEP MY LOVE Claudette Colbert Robert Cummings Don Ameche D	(Jan. Releases) THE SENATOR WAS INDISCREET William Powell Ella Raines Peter Lind Hayes C—81 min. (Rev. 12/15/47)	
Jan. 18	PRINCE OF THIEVES (Color) Jon Hall D—72 min.	CHECK YOUR GUNS Eddie Dean O—55 min. (Rev. 11/18/47)	IF WINTER COMES Walter Pidgeon Deborah Kerr D—98 min. (Rev. 12/23/47)	SONG OF THE DRIFTER Jimmy Wakely O PERILOUS WATERS Don Castle D—66 min. (4707)					(Gainsborough) MAN OF EVIL James Mason Phyllis Calvert D	CAPTAIN BOYCOTT Stewart Granger Kathleen Ryan D—92 min. (Rev. 11/24/47)	

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

The most musical musical ever, ever!
16 SONGS
including:

"MY WILD IRISH ROSE"
"IN THE EVENING BY THE MOONLIGHT"
"WILL YOU LOVE ME IN DECEMBER"
"A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN"
"BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON"
"MY EVENING STAR"
"MY NELLIE'S BLUE EYES"
"MOTHER MACHREE"
"DEAR OLD DONEGAL"
"WEE ROSE OF KILLARNEY"
"IF I'M DREAMING, LET ME DREAM"
"LET THE REST OF THE WORLD GO BY"

DENNIS MORGAN

in a giant jubilee of joy!

Warner Bros.' Big Parade of Color, Comedy and Dancin' Darlin's!

"MY WILD IRISH ROSE"

It's Mcnificent! color by TECHNICOLOR

with a giant musical cast and
ARLENE DAHL · ANDREA KING · ALAN HALE · GEORGE TOBIAS · GEORGE O'BRIEN · BEN BLUE · SARA ALLGOOD

Directed by
DAVID BUTLER

Screen Play by Peter Milne • Based upon a Book by Rita Olcott • Musical Numbers Created and Directed by LeRoy Prinz • Musical Numbers Orchestrated and Conducted by Ray Heindorf

Produced by
WILLIAM JACOBS

In Over 300 houses for New Year's Eve!

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DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V[illegible]62. NO. 126 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1947 TEN CENTS

1946 Profit Abroad Was $138,000,000

U. S. Reports Early '47 At Record Level, Also

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—U. S. film companies' remittances from abroad during 1946 hit a record $138,000,000, and receipts early in 1947 were at approximately the same level, according to the Department of Commerce.

The figures, the Department says, represent the American distributors' share of income after the payment of expenses in foreign countries. They do not include returns on investments abroad, which might add another $7,000,000 to $10,000,000, according to Commerce Department estimates.

The effect of the films' duty in the United Kingdom, imposed last August, will probably not be reflected in a reduction in film rentals from that coun-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Beiersdorf Named E-L Western Head

Herman Beiersdorf, Eagle-Lion Southwestern district manager, has been promoted to Western sales manager, effective immediately, by A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president. Beiersdorf succeeds L. E. (Nicky) Goldhammer, whose resignation from the Western sales managership was announced simultaneously.

Beiersdorf, veteran sales executive

(*Continued on page* 4)

Youthful Managers 'Abet' Delinquency

San Mateo, Cal., Dec. 30.—Charging that the youth of some theatre managers in this county is responsible for the wave of delinquency of high school youngsters, John S. Cowgill, probation officer for San Mateo called a conference of theatre managers here.

Cowgill claimed excessive necking and rowdyism in some local theatres is due to the hiring of young theatre managers who are unable to discipline youngsters.

Brulatour Boosts Raw Stock Cost; Others to Follow

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Increase in raw stock cost to studios, averaging about $2.50 per thousand feet and retroactive to yesterday morning, has been announced by J. E. Brulatour, Inc., in a letter received by film companies today. Increased labor costs are among the reasons cited.

Consolidated Film Industries, a division of Republic, will effect a similar increase, it was also announced. Other laboratories are expected to follow suit.

Slates $76-Millions For '48 Video Web

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Vastly expanded inter-city television relay facilities are a key part of a 1948 expansion program outlined to the Federal Communications Commission today by American Telephone and Telegraph Co.

The program, which contemplates spending $76,000,000 on expansion, includes two additional coaxial cables between Washington and New York, two cables between Washington and Charlotte, two between New York and Albany, two between Philadelphia and Chicago, and two between Chicago and St. Louis. The company said Boston also might be tied in to the system.

Loew Film Write-off Set at $64 Millions

Loew's annual earnings statement, issued yesterday, for the year ended August 31, listed a film amortization and film-cost write-off of $64,274,210.

Company's amortization rate was the same as the previous year, by which costs are allocated 75% to the United States and Canada and 25% to foreign distribution. They are written off 44.8% at the end of 12 weeks; 24 weeks, 70.7%; 36 weeks, 85.1%; 52 weeks, 95%; 78 weeks, 100%.

Foreign conditions may require a revision in the amortization table for the future, it was said.

381 Theatres Are In Denver Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—There are 381 theatres with a seating capacity of 186,201 in operation in the Denver territory, according to a new theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 18th in a series of 31 directories, the Denver document discloses that 60 theatres, with capacity of 51,778 are in this area's four largest

(*Continued on page* 4)

WB Pathe Newsreel to Start Using Color

Marking what was described as "the first practical steps" toward a regular newsreel entirely in color, Warner Pathe News yesterday completed arrangements for its initial use in reporting two major news events, tomorrow's Tournament of Roses Parade and the Rose Bowl football game in Pasadena, Cal.

This coverage, unless rain or heavy overcast prevents shooting, will put 300 feet of Cinecolor film of the New Year's spectacles into the regular weekly Warner Pathe reel issued from New York on Monday. Warner theatres and other clients in Los Angeles will show it Tuesday.

With the cooperation of Cinecolor, a schedule has been laid out for a speed-record processing, editing, titling and narration, with the Warner studio short subject department handling the latter phases. Narrators will be Art Gilmore and Don Otis.

Barely 24 hours after the final gun

(*Continued on page* 4)

Happy New Year

$11,626,427 Loew Profit For the Year

Current Working Assets Listed at 132 Millions

Loew's in its annual report yesterday showed net income of $11,626,427 for the year ended August 31, after provision for depreciation, taxes and all other deductions. This is equivalent to $2.26 per share on 5,142,615 shares, and includes $1,093,736 of Loew's portion of the net undistributed income of partly-owned corporations. Federal taxes were $7,277,478.

Corresponding net for the previous fiscal year was $18,691,533, equivalent to $3.66 on 5,100,327 shares then outstanding. This included $732,588 of Loew's portion of the net undistributed income of partly owned corporations. Gross income in 1946-47 was $183,948,900 and operating and general expenses were $149,504,619. Com-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Skouras to Preside At NCCJ Luncheon

A luncheon of the amusements division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews will be held at the Waldorf Astoria here on Jan. 6. it was announced here yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox and chairman of the motion picture committee for "Brotherhood Week," sponsored annually by the Conference.

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, NCCJ president, will be the principal speak-

(*Continued on page* 4)

See 35mm. Houses In Trend to 16mm.

Development of a trend to conversion of many foreign 35mm. theatres to 16mm. operation, especially in the Far East and Latin America, is predicted by Robert Maroney, head of RKO Radio's 16mm. international department. Also predicted by Maroney was a further increase in worldwide

(*Continued on page* 2)

No Paper Tomorrow

Motion Picture Daily will not be published tomorrow, New Year's Day and a legal holiday.

Personal Mention

LYNN FARNOL, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn Prod., will leave here for Miami tomorrow for the premiere of "The Bishop's Wife" at the Colony Theatre, Miami Beach.

•

TYRONE POWER, STIRLING HAYDEN, LOUIS HAYWARD, BOB CROSBY, WILLIAM LUNDIGAN and GLENN FORD will be flown from Hollywood by the Marine Corps to Philadelphia to inaugurate Marine Corps Reserve Week there Jan. 11. All served overseas with the Marines during the war.

•

SEYMOUR EICHMAN, Astor Pictures advertising manager, was married here Saturday to ESTHER COHEN of Miami, Fla., and Palm Springs, Cal.

•

NORMAN STUART, Columbia dialogue director, has returned to New York from Rome and will head back for the Coast on Jan. 7.

•

JAY CIPES of Columbia's publicity department here, and RITA COHN of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., have announced their engagement.

•

BOB HOPE has been presented with the annual Good Neighbor Award by Gov. CLARENCE W. MEADOWS of West Virginia.

•

ROY ROGERS and his leading lady, DALE EVANS, will be married today at the Flying L Ranch near Sulphur, Okla.

•

WALTER READE, JR., left here yesterday for a week's vacation near Montreal with MRS. READE.

•

MARTIN LEVINE, Brandt Theatres general manager, has left here for Boca Raton, Fla.

•

WILLIAM LAWRENCE, Warner salesman in Charlotte, is in New York for the holidays.

•

JIMMY DURANTE has entered Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital for a minor operation.

Incumbents Win in 'IA' Local Election

Herman Gelber was returned to the presidency of IATSE Local No. 306 last night in a hotly-contested election that also returned Morris Kravitz and Dan Scher to their posts as business agents. Joseph D. Basson, a former president and now a special IATSE home office representative, opposed Gelber in what was regarded as a test of IATSE president Richard F. Walsh's strength in the local. Gelber is identified with Left-wing forces.

Morton Van Praag

CHICAGO, Dec. 30. — Morton Van Praag, who recently resigned as sales manager of All-American News, died in his hotel room here late last week. He is survived by the widow.

Production Costs in Italy Rising: Picker

Production costs in Italy have about doubled in a few months, due mainly to the influx of American production, Leonard Picker, independent producer, releasing through Eagle-Lion, asserted here yesterday. Picker recently returned from Europe where he studied production conditions in Italy, France, England and Switzerland.

He pointed out, however, that despite the rise in costs, it is still about 50 per cent cheaper to produce in Italy than in Hollywood. One result of the influx of outside activity has been the virtual elimination of native production, it was observed.

The advisability of doing any production in France at present was ruled out by Picker because of "the unstable political situation," a condition which has stopped production there. Scanning other countries as production possibilities, he said that Czechoslovakia would be a good place, except for "dismal living conditions." As for Denmark and Sweden, they also seemed promising, except for "unsure weather conditions."

Picker predicted an increased trend toward foreign production because of lower costs. To outline comparative costs, Picker cited a hypothetical picture and said that its production in Italy would cost $400,000; in Mexico, $650,000; and in Hollywood, $900,000 or more.

Picker, who will leave tomorrow for Hollywood, hopes to make a picture in Europe shortly under the banner of a new unit, Hollywood International Corp.

FPC '25-Year Club' Slates Three Fetes

TORONTO, Dec. 30.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has completed plans for three dinners to be held within a two-week period next month in celebration of the fourth anniversary of the company's "25-Year Club," it is announced by J. J. Fitzgibbons, FPC president, who will take the occasions to induct groups of employes who have served the circuit continuously for a quarter of a century.

First dinner will be held here on Jan. 13; second will be held Jan. 21 at Winnipeg; third is scheduled for Jan. 26 at Vancouver.

Reagan Sets Premiere

Albuquerque, N. M., will be the scene of the world premiere of Clarion Productions "Albuquerque" on Feb. 2, it has been announced by Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution vice-president. A junket of screen stars and journalists will journey to the Southwestern city to participate. Director William Thomas also will make the trip from Hollywood.

Lesser Opens Office

Producer's Representatives, Inc., new firm of Irving Lesser and Seymour Poe, opened offices here yesterday in the RKO Building, Rockefeller Center.

News Briefs

ROYAL HAIGHT has been appointed director of the candy sales department of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., by Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president. He succeeds Max Schosberg who will become a consultant and advisor to the department, which he founded 20 years ago. Haight started with United Detroit Theatres, a Paramount affiliate, in 1934. On Nov. 1, 1946 he was brought into candy sales.

Meanwhile, it was also announced by Goldenson that a testimonial luncheon to Schosberg will be given at the Hotel Astor here on Friday.

Eight Companies and MPA Close at 1 P.M. Today

Most film companies here, and the Motion Picture Association, will close at one P.M. today. As of last night, two of the companies were undecided. All will be open Friday.

Among those closing are Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th Century-Fox, Universal-International and Warner Brothers. Undecided were Monogram, United Artists and a few others.

Mexico Stiffens Copyright Laws

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 30.—The Mexican Congress has approved a new copyright law to protect Mexican authorship.

The new law gives an author lifetime rights to his works and to his heirs for 20 years after death. In the event there are no heirs the rights of the author become state property. The new law, of course, applies to motion pictures.

Weitman to Host Stars

Many players who have been headlined at the New York Paramount will be guests of Bob Weitman, managing director of the theatre, backstage at midnight tonight. Guests of honor will be Vic Damone, new singing star, who two years ago worked as a Paramount usher, and Stan Kenton, current headliners at the Paramount.

Radiant Names Betly

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—M. J. Betly has been appointed vice-president in charge of plant operations by Radiant Manufacturing Corp. here.

Newsreel Parade

THE heaviest snowstorm to hit New York marks a newsreel highlight. Other items include Henry Wallace's bid for the presidency, Margaret Truman at a press interview, and the friendship food. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 36 — Heaviest snowfall paralyzes New York City. Henry Wallace will run for president on [illegible]-party ticket. Warehouse blaze in Philadelphia. Friendship Food Train in Paris. Navy tests panther plane. Football. Snowball fight in bathing suits.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 234 — New York's greatest snowstorm. Henry Wallace to run for president. New beach modes. Margaret Truman's press conference.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 37 — Review of 1947.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 104 — New York paralyzed by snowstorm. Navy fighter plane tested. Margaret Truman meets ladies of the press. Football. Tennis.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 39 — Record snow smothers New York. Admiral Nimitz takes it easy. Paris hails Friendship Food. Margaret Truman meets the press. Tennis. New White House puppy.

Trend to 16mm.

(*Continued from page* 1)

16mm. business which, during 1947, is understood to have netted RKO from $350,000 to $400,000, an increase of 100 per cent over the previous year.

The trend towards conversion to 16mm. was stimulated by worn-out 35mm. equipment of foreign exhibitors who, during the past seven years, had not been able to obtain spare parts or new machines, he said. Also, theatre men found that for their small houses 16mm. is satisfactory and that product is readily available. M-G-M is encouraging conversion to narrow-gauge in Nicaragua and a similar trend has been noticeable in Ecuador.

RKO is willing to help foreign exhibitors obtain the necessary equipment, Maroney said. Projector manufacture has risen sharply over pre-war years, he pointed out.

The rate at which foreign 16mm. theatres are using up available product from the two largest companies in the market—RKO and Loew's International—is a matter of concern, Maroney said. It is true that both distributors have the accumulated product of 10 years, amounting to a maximum of about 500 pictures, but many cannot be shown.

DEVONSHIRE DISTRIBUTORS
COAST TO COAST
WISH YOU
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street Boston, Mass.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

BEATS THE BLIZZARD!
S.R.O. biz at
N. Y. Capitol
World
Premiere!

"'HIGH WALL' punches all the way...sturdy melodramatic film ...strong cast and production." —VARIETY (Weekly)

"Dramatic entertainment bet delivers suspense, excitement." —FILM DAILY

"Strong meat . . . suspenseful scenes . . . chilling entertainment . . . recommended." —MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"Gripping, suspenseful." —BOXOFFICE

"Solid entertainment for all types and classes."—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"Fast moving action...profitable boxoffice reception...romance, suspense...a smashing conclusion." —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Exciting and interesting show...highly effective." —MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"Snaps like a whip...plenty of entertainment...another click." —COAST VARIETY

★

M-G-M PRESENTS THE HIGH-TENSION ROMANCE

ROBERT TAYLOR

AUDREY TOTTER · HERBERT MARSHALL

HIGH WALL

DOROTHY PATRICK · H. B. WARNER · WARNER ANDERSON

Screen Play by Sydney Boehm and Lester Cole • Suggested by a Story and Play by Alan R. Clark and Bradbury Foote · Directed by Curtis BERNHARDT · Produced by Robert LORD

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

1947 Radio Revenue Rose $25,500,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The National Association of Broadcasters reported today that radio stations' gross revenue for 1947 was up nearly $25,500,000 over 1946. Gross revenue from local retail advertising during the past year exceeded national network revenue for the first time in 20 years, NAB said. Local retail advertising accounted for $136,000,000 of gross revenue in 1946, according to the NAB, while national advertising totaled $125,800,000.

RCA's Sarnoff Sees 50 Video Stations in '48

More than 50 television stations will be on the air in 1948, it was predicted by David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America.

Sarnoff forecast that by the end of 1948 approximately 750,000 television receivers will be in use. Based upon the progress to date, within a year television measured in consumer prices will approach the status of a $500,000,000 a year industry, he stated.

Television Manufacturing Continues Steady Increase

Television receiver production continued to rise during November, according to production figures released by the Radio Manufacturers Association. Output for the past month amounted to 24,135, an increase of 442 over October's 23,693.

Total number of receivers manufactured by RMA-affiliated groups since Jan. 1, 1947 amount to 149,226.

Loew Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

pany had $25,000,000 cash on hand on August 31.

Total current and working assets on August 31 aggregated $132,171,887, against $127,830,012 the year before, while total current liabilities were $26,941,991 against $30,844,315.

For the 12 weeks ended Nov. 20 net income, after depreciation, taxes and other deductions, and subject to year-end audit, totalled $1,354,761, equivalent to 26 cents a share, compared with $3,650,967 or 72 cents a share for the corresponding 12 weeks in the previous year. Gross sales and operating revenues for the 12 weeks were estimated at $37,960,000, compared with $41,460,000 for the same period last year.

The company also announced that "substantial economies have been effected throughout the organization, the benefits of which should be reflected in future operations."

Loew's on August 31 had total assets of $229,852,806 and fixed assets of $113,136,322, which, after a depreciation write-off of $35,498,741, was marked down to $77,637,581.

Denver Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

cities: Denver, Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Albuquerque. Denver alone has 37 theatres in operation, with a capacity of 34,974.

Denver theatres average 945 seats per house, in comparison with a 299-seat average for 203 theatres in 198 towns with a population of 2,500 and under.

Announcing

HORIZON PICTURES, Inc.

We are going to try to make
very good motion pictures.

Sam Spiegel John Huston

Offices: Samuel Goldwyn Studios, Hollywood, California

WB Color Reel

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the Michigan-USC fracas, completed clips of the Rose Parade will start for New York by air, with game shots closely following. It was pointed out by WB that such speed can be established as routine and may allow eventual use of color film on all events. An analysis made of newsreel subjects is said to show a large majority especially suitable for color.

Willard Vanderveer, Southern California representative for Warner Pathe News, is in charge of tomorrow's operation. Frank Vail, his Northern California associate, will go from San Francisco to head the second of the camera crews assigned. Three will work on the parade.

Color footage will be running through developing machines by kick-off time in the bowl. Play-by-play coverage of the game will be made by two Warner Pathe crews atop the press stand with the third on the field to shoot crowds and sideline action.

Laboratory personnel has been doubled and assigned in two eight-hour shifts to expedite processing.

William McClure Will Join Warner Pathe News Jan. 4

William McClure, cameraman, who has also served as publicity manager of RKO Pathe, Inc., will join Warner Pathe News as staff correspondent in Europe, effective Jan. 4. McClure has headed RKO Pathe publicity operations during the past year and before that worked as a member of the documentary camera teams producing "This Is America." During World War II, he was a combat cameraman assigned to the 2nd Armored Division in Europe and after V-E Day served in the Philippines.

McClure will leave here for Paris within the next few weeks, where he will join Pathe News' European manager William Murray. McClure and Murray will operate under Alfred Butterfield, editor of Warner Pathe News, and Edward Buddy, foreign editor.

1946 Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

try until at least the second quarter of 1948, according to the report. It points out that official British figures put 1946 payments to U. S. film companies at $70,000,000.

However, attendance at British theatres declined during 1947, resulting in a reduction of earnings of American films there from the 1946 figure. The reduction is variously estimated within the industry at from 15 to 30 per cent.

Earlier Commerce Department reports showed the entire film industry's 1946 profits at $316,000,000, before taxes.

The report is based on confidential reports furnished by American film companies. Only estimates are available for earlier years, Commerce states, but these are all well below 1946 totals. The previous high was in 1942, when remitttances hit an estimated $125,000,000, but this included dollar accumulations from earlier years released by the British. Estimates for 1943 were $114,000,000, for 1944 $110,000,000, and for 1945, $111,000,000. The pre-war high was an estimated $100,000,000 in 1937.

Commerce said that the 1946 remittances were distributed almost evenly over the four quarters of the year, with $33,000,000 in each of the first two quarters, $34,000,000 in the third quarter, and $38,000,000 in the fourth.

NCCJ Luncheon

(*Continued from page* 1)

er at the luncheon which will be attended by many notables in the industry. Recently returned from a tour of European countries where he organized international councils of Christians and Jews, Dr. Clinchy will discuss his experiences in the American Zone in Germany which he visited at the invitation of Gen. Lucius D. Clay. Skouras will outline the part that the industry will play in supporting "Brotherhood W[illegible]," which is being observed Feb. [illegible]9.

J. Robert Rubin, vice-president of Loew's, is chairman of the amusements division of the Conference and David Weinstock, of Raybond Theatres is campaign chairman.

Among those invited to the luncheon are: Herbert H. Lehman, Eric Johnston, Barney Balaban, Adam Adams, Neil Agnew, Leon Bamberger, Robert Benjamin, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Harry D. Buckley, Edward J. Churchill, Max Cohen, Jack Cohn, Robert W. Coyne, Ned E. Depinet, Gus Eyssell, Simon H. Fabian, George Feinberg, Matthew Fox, Emil Friedlander, William German, Leonard H. Goldenson.

Also: Donald Henderson, John D. Hertz, Jr., Joseph Hornstein, Ben Kalmenson, Harry M. Kalmine, S. Jay Kaufman, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jack Kirsch, Edward Lachman, Arthur Mayer, Dan Michalove, W. C. Michel, Nicholas Mitsoukas, Abe Montague, C. C. Moskowitz, Louis Nizer, John J. O'Connor, Ralph Poucher.

Also: Martin Quigley, Jr., Walter Reade, Samuel Rinzler, William F. Rodgers, J. Robert Rubin, Edward Rugoff, George J. Schaefer, Abe Schneider, John Alicoate, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Fred Schwartz, Sol Schwartz, Gradwell Sears, Abel Green, George Skouras, Nate Spingold, Solomon M. Strausberg, Albert Warner, David Weinstock, Jacob Wilk, Samuel Rosen, Edward Fabian, Oscar Hammerstein II, Brock Pemberton, Max Gordon, John Golden.

Beiersdorf Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

who spent many years with 20th Century-Fox in executive distribution posts, joined Eagle-Lion in Dec., 1946, as special sales representative. In September he was promoted to Southwestern district manager, in charge of Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans territories.

In his new post, Beiersdorf will make his headquarters in New York.

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Lord Tarleton
MIAMI BEACH
OCEAN FRONT • 40th to 41st Sts.
Reservations Invited • Walter Jacobs

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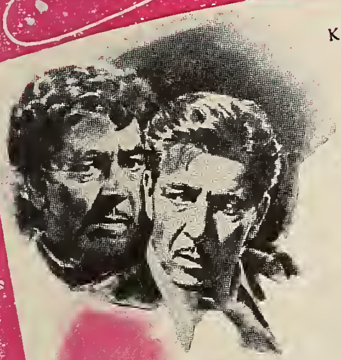
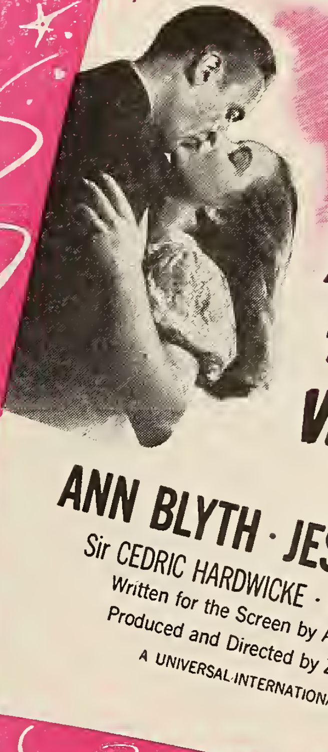
BIG ONES from U-I

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents
A NUNNALLY JOHNSON PRODUCTION
WILLIAM POWELL
IN
"The Senator Was Indiscreet"
WITH
ELLA RAINES
ARLEEN WHELAN · RAY COLLINS
AND INTRODUCING
PETER LIND HAYES
SCREENPLAY BY
CHARLES MacARTHUR
From the Story by Edwin Lanham · Associate Producer Gene Fowler Jr
DIRECTED BY
GEORGE S. KAUFMAN
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE



KANIN PRODUCTIONS Presents
Ronald COLMAN
"A DOUBLE LIFE"
with SIGNE HASSO
EDMOND O'BRIEN
SHELLEY WINTERS · RAY COLLINS · PHILIP LOEB
MILLARD MITCHELL · JOSEPH SAWYER
Written by RUTH GORDON and GARSON KANIN
Directed by GEORGE CUKOR · Produced by MICHAEL KANIN
A Universal-International Release

Mark Hellinger's
NAKED CITY
Starring **BARRY FITZGERALD**
and Featuring HOWARD DUFF · DOROTHY HART · DON TAYLOR
Directed by JULES DASSIN · Produced by MARK HELLINGER
Associate Producer JULES BUCK · Screenplay by ALBERT MALTZ and MALVIN WALD · From a Story by MALVIN WALD
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE



UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents
CHARLES BOYER
in
ALDOUS HUXLEY'S
"A WOMAN'S VENGEANCE"
with
ANN BLYTH · JESSICA TANDY
Sir CEDRIC HARDWICKE · MILDRED NATWICK
Written for the Screen by ALDOUS HUXLEY
Produced and Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

to start your New Year right!

U-I has the BIG ONES!

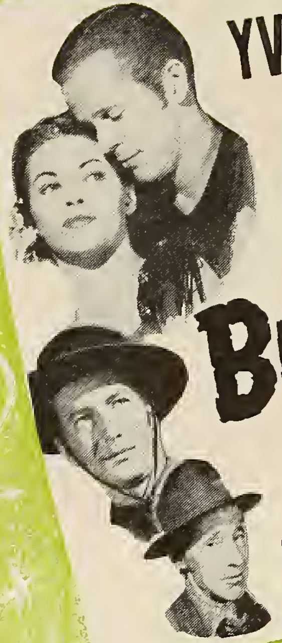
...to keep up the momentum!

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL Presents

"UP IN CENTRAL PARK"

starring

DEANNA DURBIN
DICK HAYMES
VINCENT PRICE
with **ALBERT SHARPE**
TOM POWERS • HOBART CAVANAUGH
Music by **SIGMUND ROMBERG**
Lyrics by **DOROTHY FIELDS**
Screenplay by KARL TUNBERG
Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER
Produced by KARL TUNBERG



UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL Presents

YVONNE DeCARLO
DAN DURYEA
JEFFREY LYNN
in

BLACK BART

Color by TECHNICOLOR

with **PERCY KILBRIDE**
Screenplay by LUCI WARD
JACK NATTEFORD and WILLIAM BOWERS
Original Story by Luci Ward and Jack Natteford
Produced by LEONARD GOLDSTEIN
Directed by GEORGE SHERMAN

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL
in association with
MARSTON PICTURES, INC.
Presents

YVONNE **DeCARLO**
TONY **MARTIN**
PETER **LORRE**
and introduces
MARTA **TOREN**
in

CASBAH

with
HUGO HAAS • THOMAS GOMEZ • DOUGLAS DICK
KATHERINE DUNHAM
AND HER DANCERS
Music by HAROLD ARLEN, LEO ROBIN
Produced by NAT GOLDSTONE
Directed by JOHN BERRY
A Universal-International Release

WALTER WANGER Presents

JOAN BENNETT
MICHAEL REDGRAVE
in FRITZ LANG'S

Secret BEYOND THE DOOR

with **ANNE REVERE**
BARBARA O'NEIL • NATALIE SCHAFER
Produced and Directed by **FRITZ LANG**
of "Scarlet Street" and "Woman in the Window" Fame!
A DIANA PRODUCTION Screenplay by SILVIA RICHARDS
Based on the story by Rufus King
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Universal International

U-I has the BIG ONES! to give you

a BIG 1948

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL Presents

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
BURT LANCASTER

IN

"ALL MY SONS"

with
MADY CHRISTIANS • LOUISA HORTON • HOWARD DUFF
ARLENE FRANCIS • LLOYD GOUGH
Written and Produced for the Screen by CHESTER ERSKINE
From the Play by Arthur Miller • Directed by IRVING REIS
A CHESTER ERSKINE PRODUCTION

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS

JOAN
FONTAINE
LOUIS
JOURDAN

Letter from An Unknown Woman

with MADY CHRISTIANS
MARCEL JOURNET • ART SMITH • CAROL YORKE
Screenplay by Howard Koch
From the story by Stefan Zweig
Produced by JOHN HOUSEMAN • Directed by MAX OPULS
A RAMPART PRODUCTION

WALTER WANGER Presents

VAN HEFLIN
SUSAN HAYWARD
in

"TAP ROOTS"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

with
BORIS KARLOFF • JULIE LONDON • WARD BOND
RICHARD LONG • ARTHUR SHIELDS • GRIFF BARNETT
and introducing WHITFIELD CONNOR
Screenplay by Alan LeMay
Additional Dialogue by Lionel Wiggam
From the Novel by James Street
Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL
Produced by WALTER WANGER
A GEORGE MARSHALL PRODUCTION
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL Presents

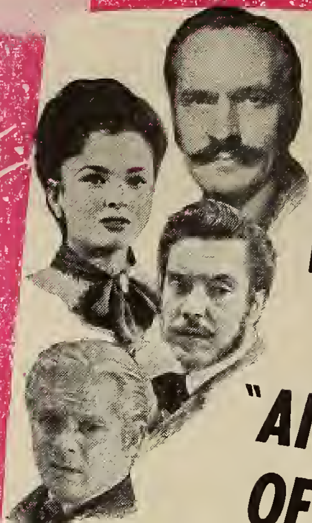
DONALD O'CONNOR
OLGA SAN JUAN
MARTHA STEWART
LEW PARKER in

"ARE YOU WITH IT?"

with PAT DANE • WALTER CATLETT
Screenplay by OSCAR BRODNEY
Based upon the Musical Comedy written by
SAM PERRIN and GEORGE BALZER
Produced by ROBERT ARTHUR • Directed by JACK HIVELY

Universal International

U-I has the BIG ONES ALL THRU 1948

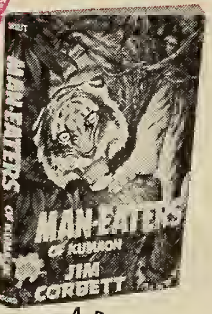


UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL Presents

FREDRIC MARCH
DAN DURYEA
EDMOND O'BRIEN
and ANN BLYTH
in

"ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST"

with FLORENCE ELDRIDGE
JOHN DALL · DONA DRAKE
Screenplay by VLADIMIR POZNER
Based on the play by LILLIAN HELLMAN
Director of Photography: HAL MOHR, A. S. C.
Produced by JERRY BRESLER · Directed by MICHAEL GORDON



A Book of the Month Club Selection

MONTY SHAFF PRODUCTION, INC.
presents

"MAN-EATERS OF KUMAON"

starring
SABU · WENDELL COREY · JOANNE PAIGE
with
MORRIS CARNOVSKY
Directed by BYRON HASKIN
Produced by MONTY SHAFF in Association with FRANK P. ROSENBERG
From the book by Jim Corbett
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents

YVONNE DeCARLO
DAN DURYEA
ROD CAMERON
HELENA CARTER
in

RIVER LADY

Color by TECHNICOLOR

with
LLOYD GOUGH · FLORENCE BATES
Screenplay by
D. D. BEAUCHAMP and WILLIAM BOWERS
From the novel by
HOUSTON BRANCH and FRANK WATERS
Produced by LEONARD GOLDSTEIN
Directed by GEORGE SHERMAN

Universal International

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